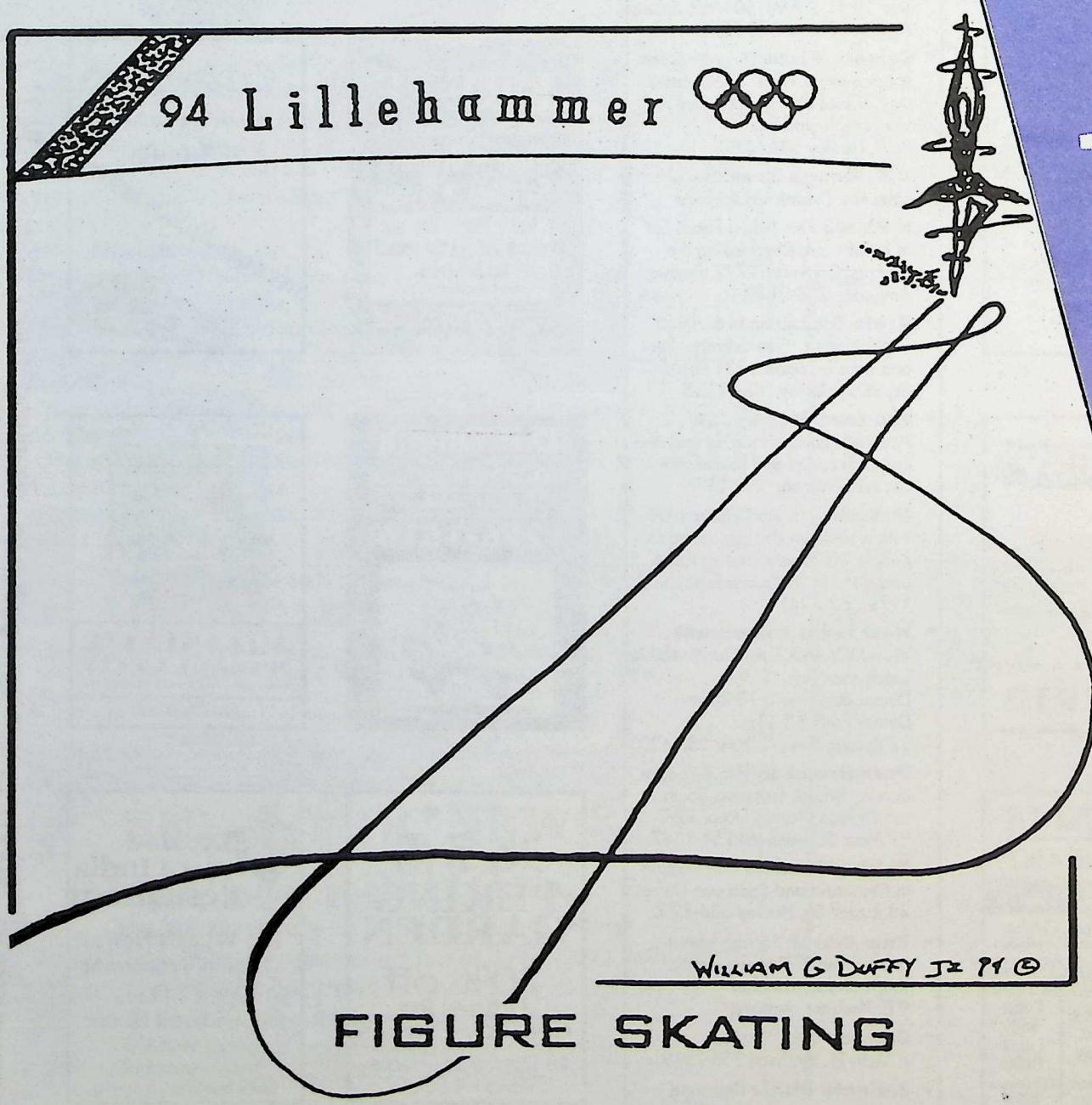


EPISODE #106
February 24, 1994

The Valley COMIC N • E • W • S

94 Lillehammer 



ENTERTAINMENT LISTINGS!!

STORIES:
BEYOND POLITIX
DOLLAR DIPLOMACY
I'VE GOT A HEADACHE THIS BIG
STRIKE THREE -- YOU'RE OUT!
SOUL ON (THIN) ICE

INSIDE

FEATURES: THE FAR SIDE,
DOONESBURY,
CALVIN & HOBBS,
VIEWS OF THE WORLD,
JOE BOB BRIGGS, LEOLD,
THIS MODERN WORLD,
TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT,
L.A. CUCARACHA,
LEO T. BALDWIN,
MIKE CHRISMAN,
LOCAL HEROES,
EARTHWEEK



PAGE THREE

By Mike Chisman



As a service to our skiing readers, this column and radio station WSKI present the following report on ski conditions near and far:

- Here in New England, Mt. Katahdin has 6 feet of virgin powder — probably the best conditions humans have ever seen. All roads to the mountain are closed by excessive snowfall. Helicopter access only.
- Mount Metric offers a 30-centimeter base with several kilotons of new snow, and a windchill to minus 20 Celsius. Bundle up.
- On Mount Washington, there's zero visibility, blowing snow, gusting snow, lacerating snow, and snow that peels the skin right off your body. Twelve hikers died up there last weekend. No beginners, please!
- Mt. Desert in Maine is offering half-price lift tickets to anyone who doesn't pronounce it "desert."
- Suicide Mountain remains closed, except for the jump.
- Mogul Mountain has about half an inch of crusty snow, and acres of bare spots. Bring grass clippers.
- Down at Disney World, Space Mountain is dark, plus they won't let you take your skis through the turnstile.
- • •
- Elsewhere around the country:
 - On top of Old Smoky, it's *all covered* with snow.
 - Mount Rushmore — Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson trails open; Roosevelt trail closed while they clean his glasses.
 - Sugar Mountain — there's no skiing on Sugar Mountain, but Neil Young CDs are very cheap.
 - Benny Hill, Capitol Hill, Anita Hill — don't be confused; these are *hills*, not mountains. You can't ski on them. Same with the legendary Hill Street, home of the blues.
 - Mount Vernon -- George Washington skied here.
 - Big Rock Candy Mountain -- unscrupulous travel agents have been booking tours here since December. It's a song title. *It doesn't exist.* Save your money.
 - Finally, at Pike's Peak, take a can of Pam, and spray your bumper with it, because some jerk will stick on: "This Car Climbed Pike's Peak." Tacky.

Now the international update:

- Mt. Everest has 900 miles of new trails, with Sherpas available at base camp 4.
- Mt. Pinatubo in the Philippines features a 6-foot base of ash, with 3 to 4 feet of new lava.
- Cross-country skiers should apply red wax.
- Mount Ararat -- Conditions are excellent at this fabled last resting place of Noah's Ark. Couples only.
- There's no snow at all on Mount Cameroon, and won't be as long as it's at the Equator. Don't go.
- Over in Middle Earth, Mt. Doom has all trails open, with slippery conditions where the goblin and orc blood has frozen.
- Olympus Mons — this mountain is 15 miles high. Expert trails only. Drawback: it's on Mars.

The Valley Comic News

P.O. Box 515, Northampton, MA 01061

Publisher/Editor • Mike Chrisman Founder • David Hooks
Co-Publisher • Izzy Gesell Advertising Director/Co-Publisher • Silvana Gravini
Co-Publisher • Hank Ryan Printing • The Recorder • Greenfield, Mass.
Copying • Paradise Copies Ad Production • Bret Kime
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OUR TIME.

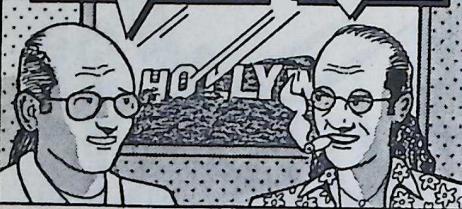
COMING UP LATER--
SOMETHING ABOUT
BOSNIA OR SOMALIA
OR SOMEPLACE
LIKE THAT--

--BUT FIRST-- WE
LEARN MORE
ABOUT TONYA
HARDING -- IN
AN EXCLUSIVE
INTERVIEW WITH
HER THIRD
GRADE TEACHER!



SOON THERE WILL BE DOCUDRAMAS & MOVIES --

I SEE IT WITH KIM
BASSINGER AND
SHARON STONE --
EXCEPT THEY'RE NOT
SKATERS, THEY'RE
NUDE MUD WRESTLERS!

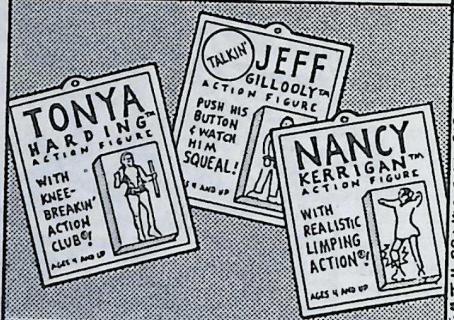


I LOVE IT! DO
YOU THINK WE
COULD GET
ARNOLD TO
PLAY THE BOY-
FRIEND?

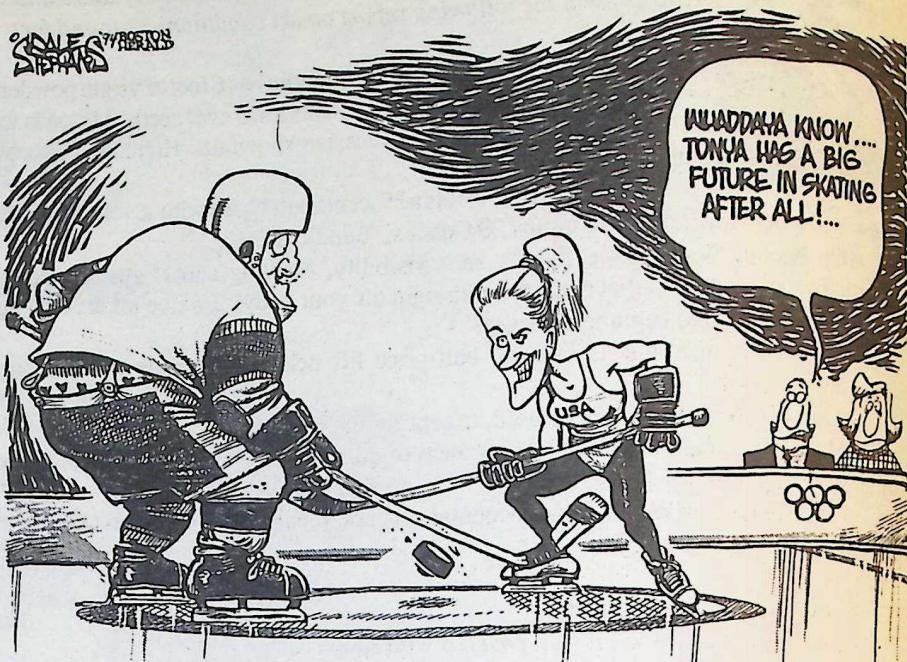
ALTRUISTIC PUBLISHERS ARE RUSHING MANY
UNDoubtedly INFORMATIVE BOOKS INTO PRINT.



--AND WHO KNOWS--PERHAPS EVEN A LINE
OF ACTION FIGURES...



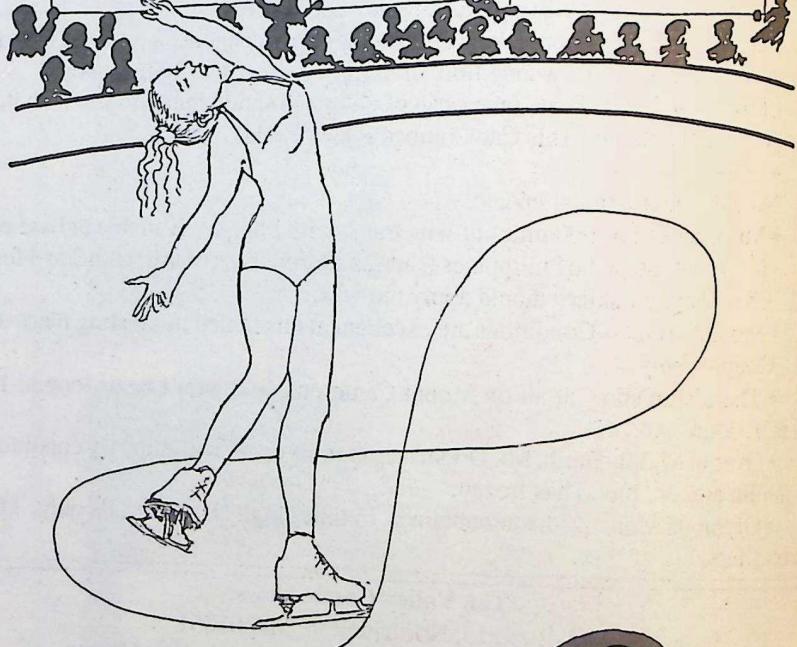
© DALE G. '74 BOSTON
STEWARTS HERALD



THE RIGHT SIDE

THEN BY
ALL MEANS-

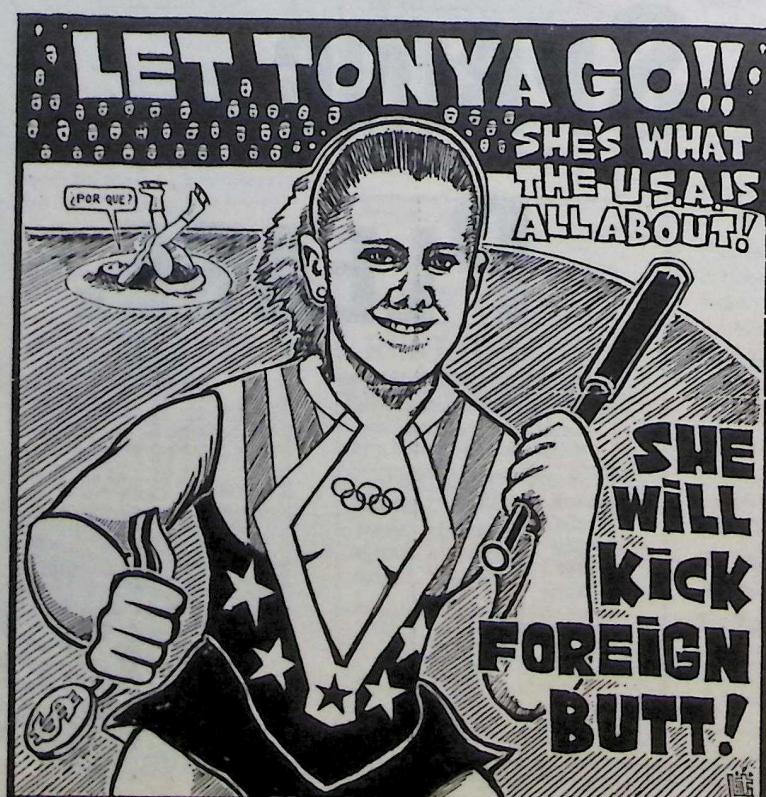
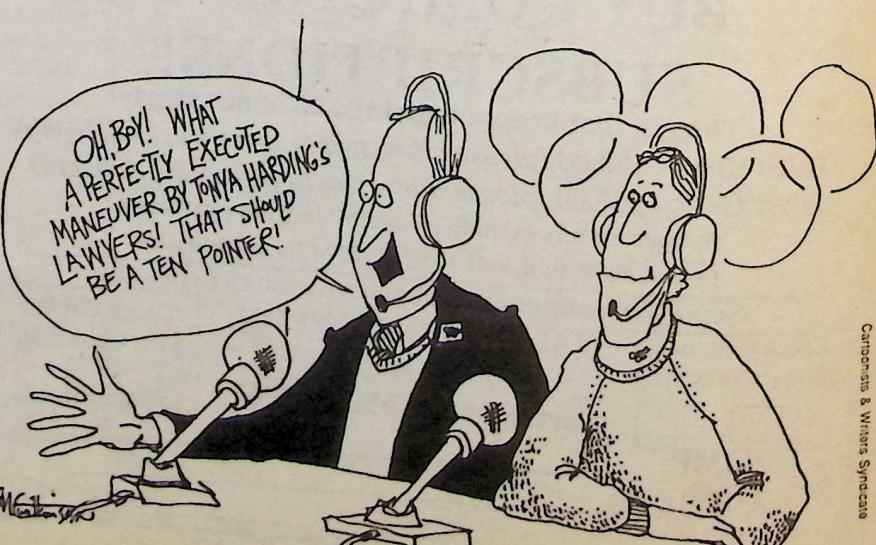
BREAK A LEG,
TONYA -



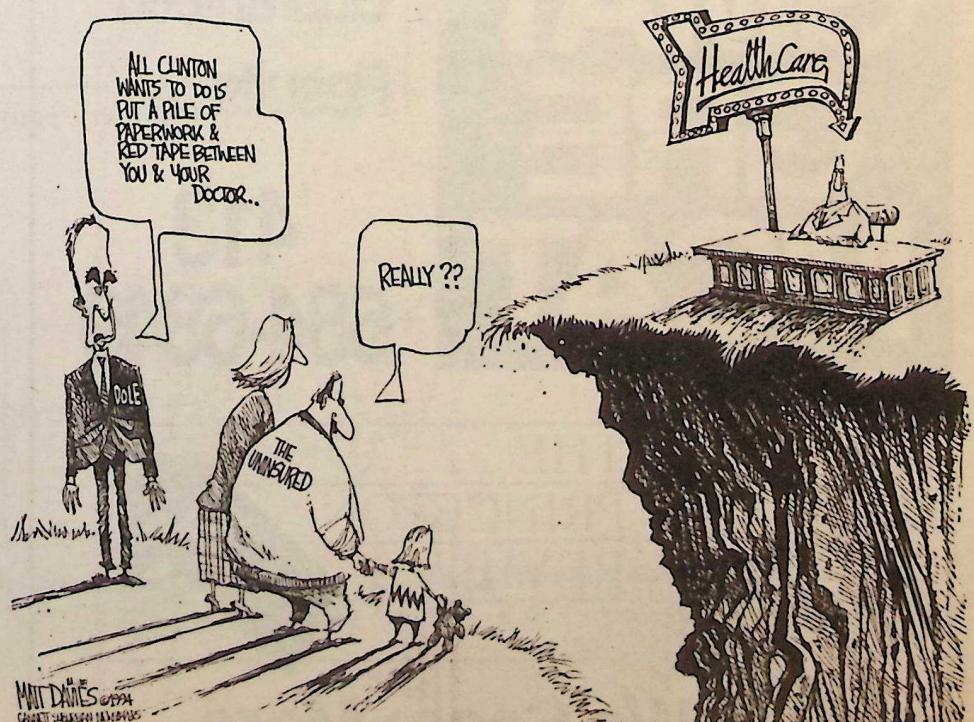
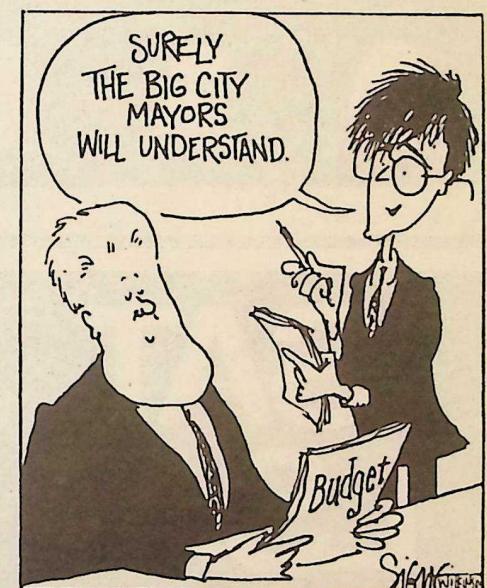
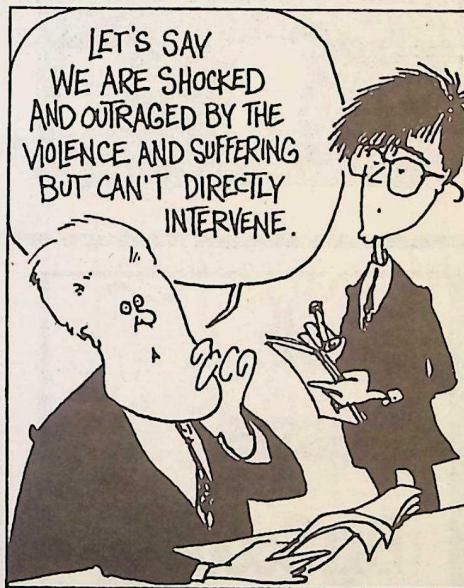
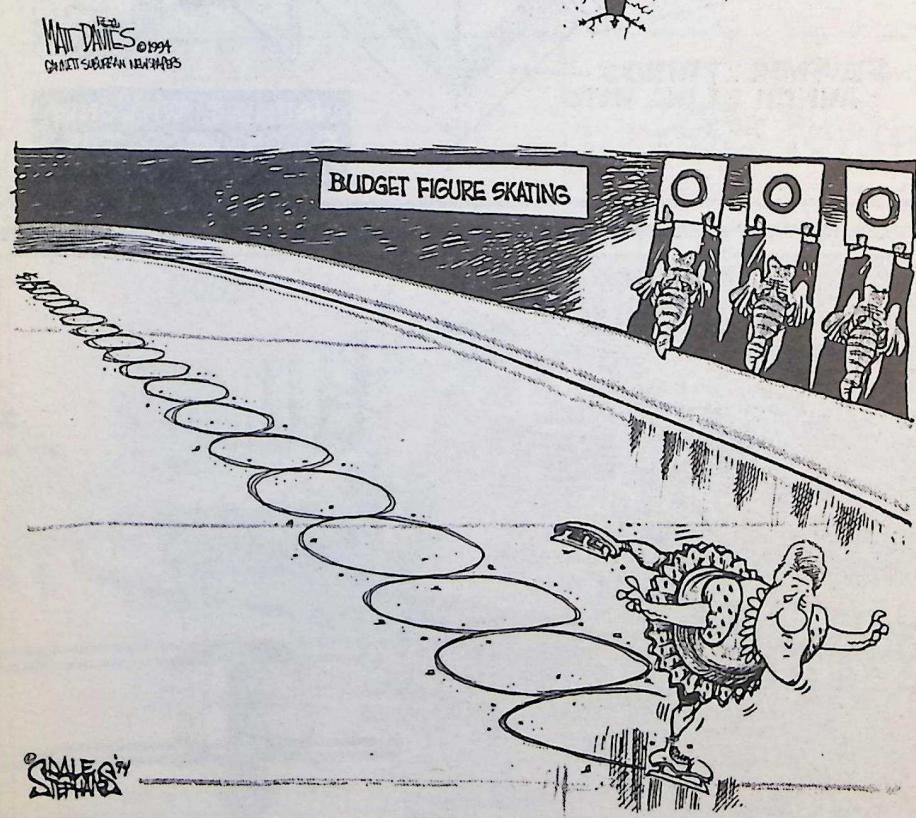
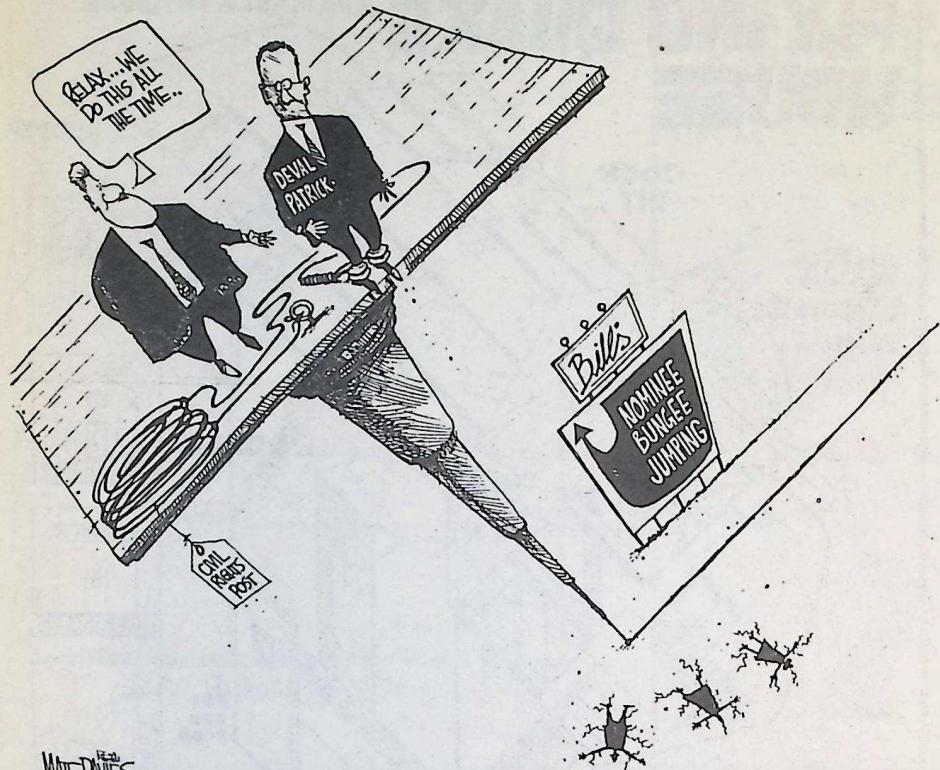
BEHIND THE FIGURE

8

F. JAMES CORWIN '94 ©



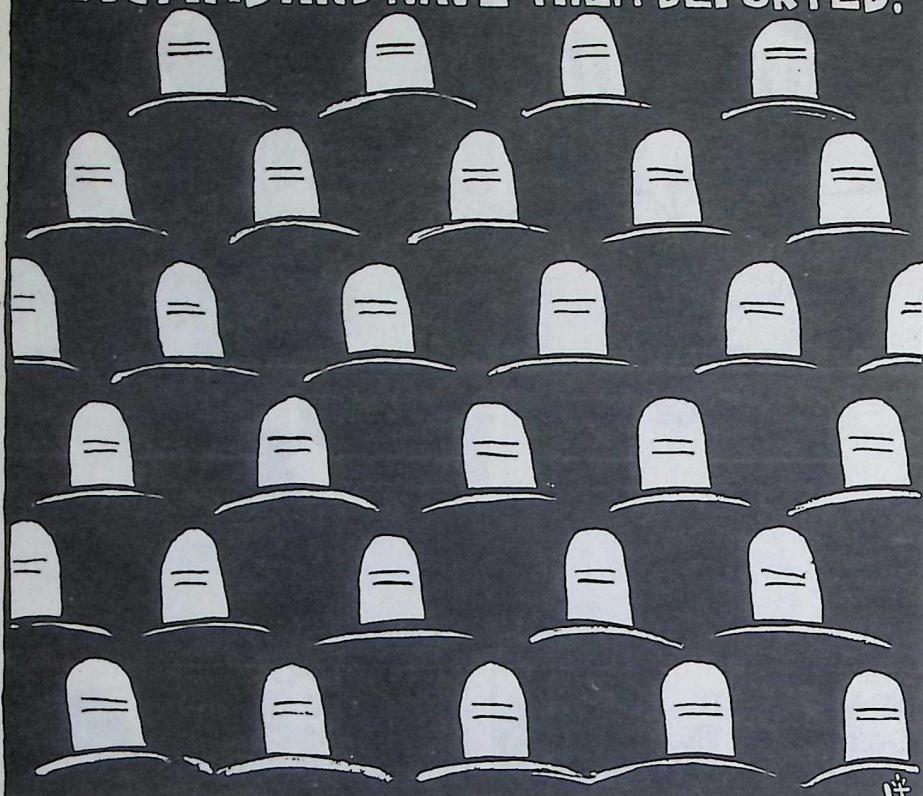
I'VE GOT A HEADACHE THIS BIG...



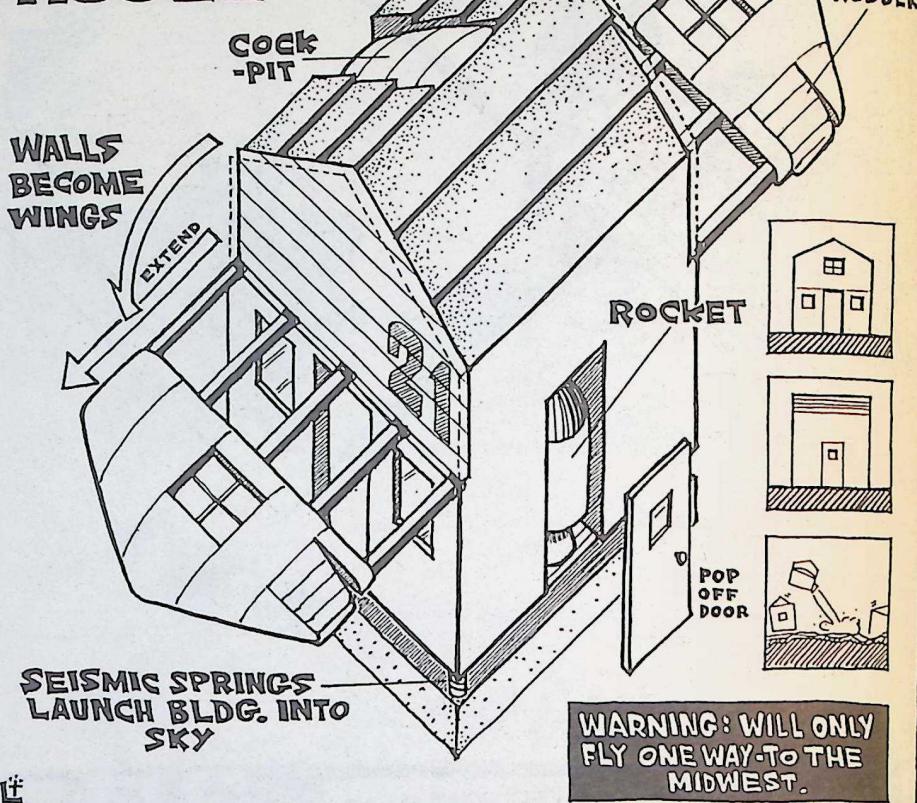
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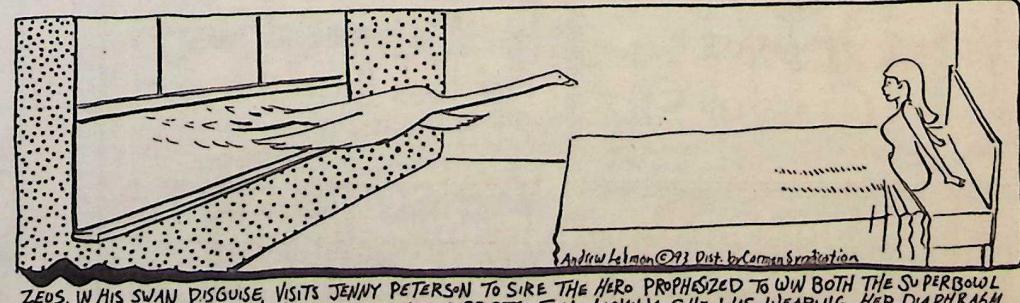
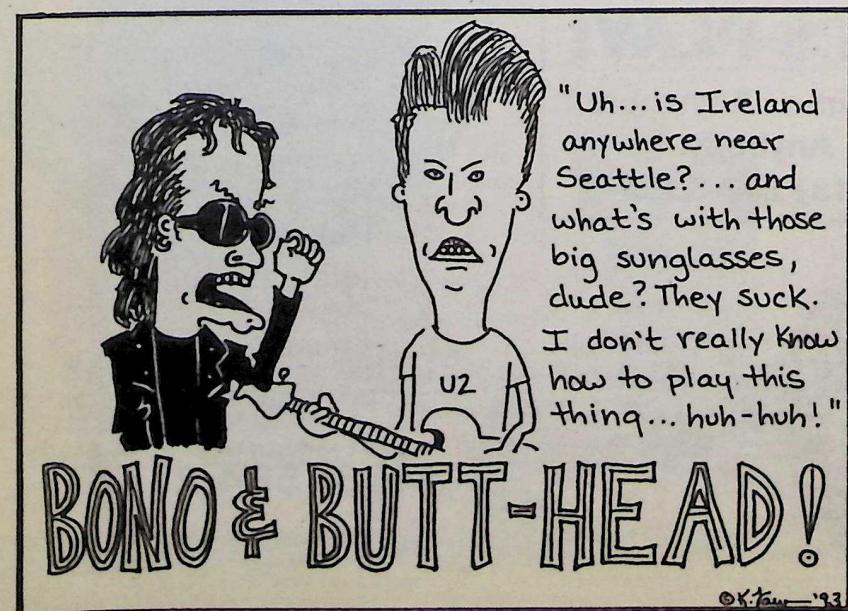
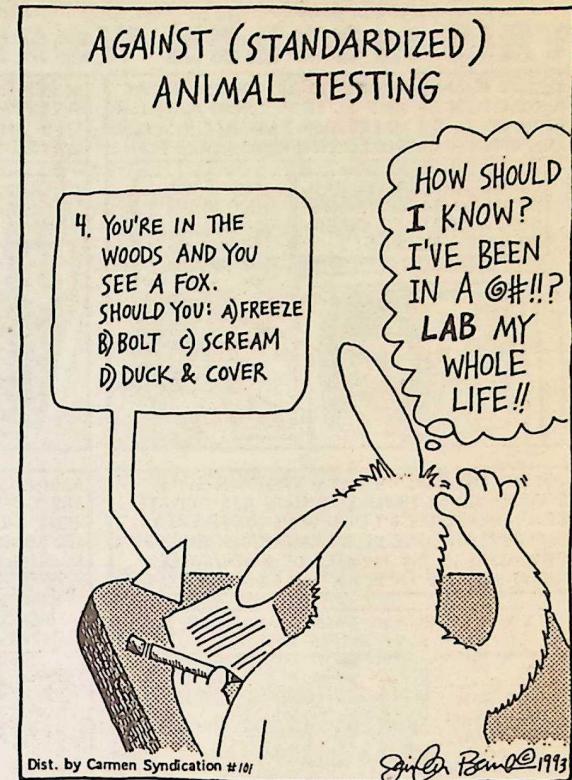
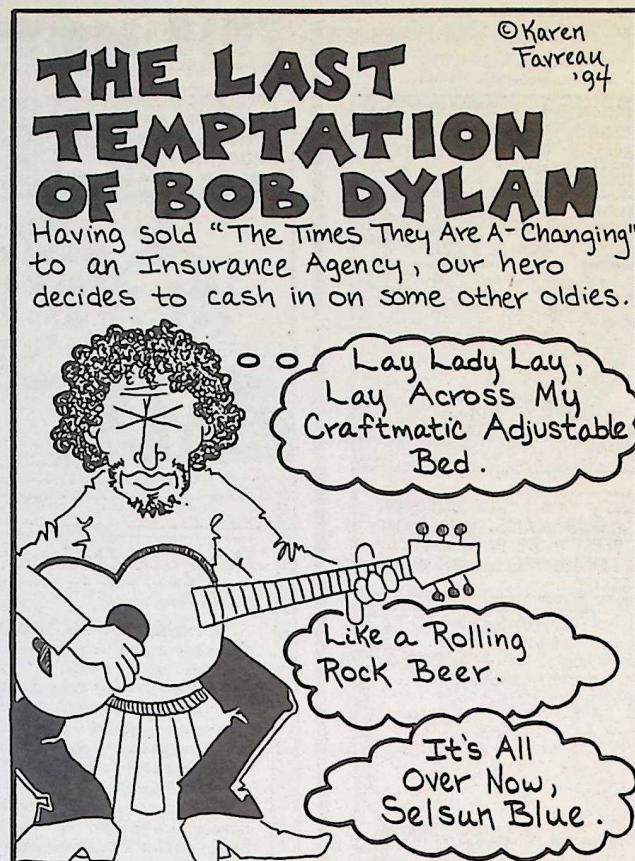
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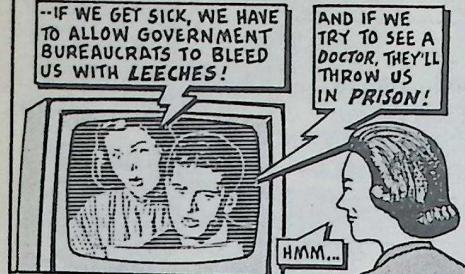


ZEUS, IN HIS SWAN DISGUISE, VISITS JENNY PETERSON TO SIRE THE HERO PROPHESIZED TO WIN BOTH THE SUPERBOWL AND THE WORLD SERIES. JENNY WAS NOT A SPORTS FAN. LUCKILY SHE WAS WEARING HER DUROPHASH.

THIS MODERN WORLD BY TOM TOMORROW

THIS MODERN WORLD

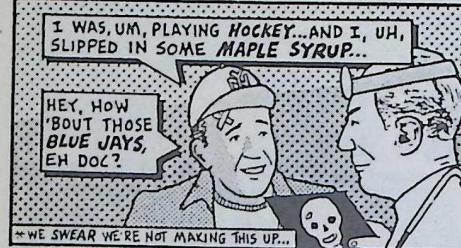
RECENT PROPAGANDISTIC TV ADS SPONSORED BY A COALITION OF MID-SIZED INSURERS HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE IMPRESSION THAT ALL INSURERS ARE OPPOSED TO THE CLINTON HEALTH CARE PLAN...



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RICH GUYS WITH PLENTY OF INSURANCE...

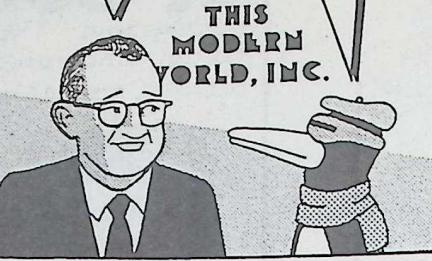
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THIS MODERN WORLD

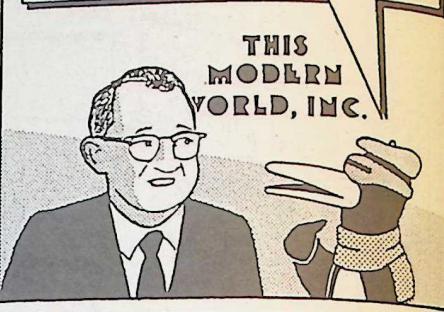
Tom Tomorrow © 2-22-94

YOU KNOW SPARKY, SOMETIMES EDITORS COMPLAIN THAT "THIS MODERN WORLD" HAS TOO MANY WORDS.

YES, I KNOW--THEY SAY PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO SPEND SO MUCH TIME READING A CARTOON.



WELL, I HAVE MORE FAITH IN OUR READERS...AFTER ALL, THAT'S WHY THEY'RE CALLED READERS, ISN'T IT? BECAUSE THEY LIKE TO READ?



A12
Penguin Defends Verbosity

(Continued from Page A1)

it their way — it might even make our strip a little more marketable!"

"So what you're saying is that you think we should make an effort to be more accessible," replied Mr. Penguin. The seemingly beleaguered Mr. Friendly responded enthusiastically in the affirmative, and Mr. Penguin continued, "I think I understand. Instead of all this dialogue, you'd rather see more —

"Now, Sparky," interjected the cartoon's business manager, Bob Friendly, "we don't want to offend our editors! Maybe we could just try



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TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT by L.M. Boyd

Q. What's the greenish color around the yolk of a hard-boiled egg?
A. Sulfur and iron compounds formed by overcooking.

In Shakespeare's England, people could use eels for money.

If you've held eight jobs by the time you're 40, you're typical, says an employment researcher.

Albert Einstein said, "Nationalism is an infantile disease. It is the measles of mankind."

Research suggests that most people have a hard time grasping that the inside of the sun rotates six times faster than the outside of the sun.

Q. Back in the bare-knuckle boxing days, how long did the rounds last?
A. As long as both fighters were on their feet. When one fighter hit the dirt, he had 30 seconds to rest, plus eight seconds to get up to the scratch line drawn across the center of the ring. If he didn't make it in the 38 seconds, it was said he was "knocked out of time." That's where we got "knocked out." It's also where we got "starting from scratch."

If you've been married to the same partner for more than seven years, your chances of staying married are better than average.

One person in 20 never catches a cold.

The fingernails of some people contain certain minerals, chemicals and dyes that absorb enough ultra violet light to glow in the dark.

A student of print periodicals tells us that people in the United States now are less frequently called "citizens" than "consumers."

Q. What's the show time, not counting commercials, of a half-hour TV sitcom?

A. Two acts, each 11 minutes.

More people use blue toothbrushes than red toothbrushes.

Rarely do you see on the lists of "greatest inventions" one some say belongs there: The American Public Library system.

Now on the market in Tokyo, I'm told, are toupées for dachshunds.

A baby giraffe grows an inch a day.

Q. In all those wagon train trips westward in the frontier years, how many pioneers were actually killed in battles with Native Americans?

A. Between 300 and 400.

Nothing in Major League baseball rules say a bat can't weigh as much as 100 pounds.

There was a time in London, England, when letter carriers delivered mail 12 times a day.

In a later crew of Columbus was one Rodrigo de Jerez, said to have been the first European of record to smoke tobacco. Back home, astonished witnesses told the Inquisitors they'd seen a man blowing smoke out his nose, and the Inquisitors promptly threw him in the dungeon as an agent of the Devil.

All kangaroos cough when frightened.

Researchers reveal that females who make New Year's resolutions outnumber males who do so by about two to one.

Before ancient Egyptians kept household cats, they kept household weasels.

A Wells Fargo circular 100 years ago warned passengers it was absolutely forbidden to discuss stagecoach robberies or Indian uprisings. Not unlike today's airline ban on any talk of hijacking.

The first voice to be broadcast on radio around the world belonged to C.D. Wagoner of Schenectady, N.Y.

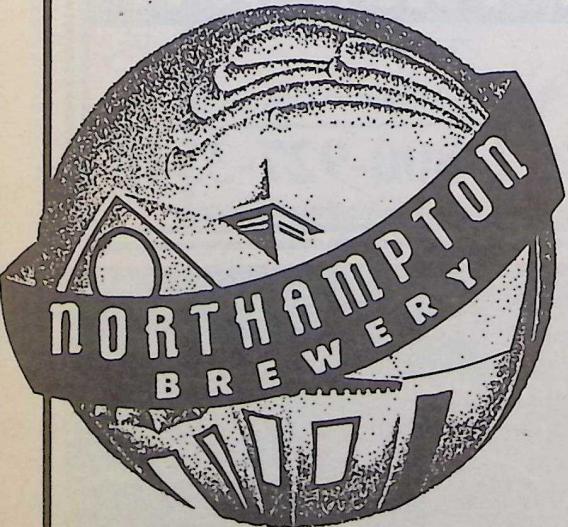
People have been killed by avalanches even though the plunging snows stopped before reaching them. Compressed air ahead of an avalanche can kill too.

Q. You said aluminum heals itself after it's scratched. How?
A. Aluminum oxide grows sideways to fill the gouge, and keeps on growing until the scratch is covered and sealed.

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JOE BOB BRIGGS

Everybody's getting ready for the Big Hoo-haw Celebration of the Year 2000, when the fundamentalists think the world is gonna explode, and the New Agers think we'll be transported into Oz, and most people think we'll just get another boring Republican president.

But *everybody* thinks *something* will happen, or at least it's *important* that we realize that it's 2,000 years after the birth of Christ — even the people who don't *believe* in Christ. In fact, some people don't even call it the year 2000 A.D., which stands for "Anno Domini," which means "The Year of the Lord." They've started using 2000 C.E., which means "Common Era." To which I say, if they're gonna change it, couldn't they come up with something a little more *snazzy*? "Common Era." It sounds like a lazy teenager's name for it. "I guess I'll lie here on the couch today —

it's just another day in the Common Era."

So anyhow, the idea of the year 2000 got me to wondering what they did to celebrate the year 1000. After all, if you're into numbers, that celebration should be a bigger deal than the *second* thousand years.

In fact, why don't we ever talk about the *first* thousand years after Christ?

Most of us act like history starts in the year 1776. Some of us are willing to go back to 1619, or 1607. People in England go back to 1066. But when it comes to those first thousand years, we *just don't think about it*. (I won't even mention the years *before* Christ. For the last ten years, they've been trying to get all the classical Greek and Roman writers kicked out of the college curriculum.)

But the people who were living in the year 1000, they *had*

to think about it. And if they thought about it, they probably thought:

Wow! A lotta water under the bridge. A thousand years ago, the Romans were killing the Christians. Then 700 years ago a Roman emperor became a Christian. Then about 600 years ago the Romans started killing the *non-Christians*. Then about 300 years ago the Romans and the Greeks divided up into two different Christian churches. The Goths came out of nowhere and took over half of Europe. The Huns came out of nowhere and went *back* to nowhere. We had the Avars, the Bulgars, the Persians, we probably had five million people die in various wars. We had nine or ten plagues, we had the Franks take over everything under Charlemagne. There was that time when North Africa was the center of civilization. We had religious wars, land wars, family

wars, wars with barbarians. In fact, so much has happened, and so many empires have come and gone, and everything is so totally changed, that it makes you grateful to live in the modern year 1000, when everything is finally settled and peaceful, and whatever you are — a Persian or a Khazar or a Roman or a Bulgar tribesman — at least you're safe from having your whole civilization destroyed. In fact, let's plant a little marker here on the square of Ctesiphon, the most famous city in the East, and a thousand years from now all the citizens of Ctesiphon will remember us and know that we made it all possible.

I imagine it was something like that, anyhow.

• • •

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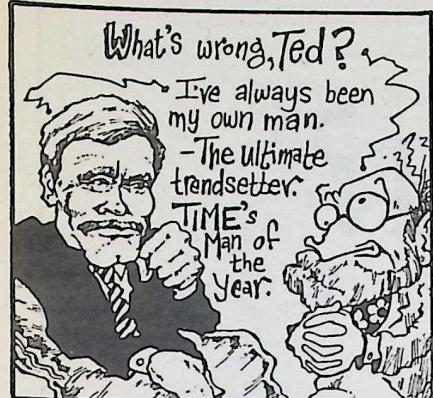
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"in the dark they're all alike?"

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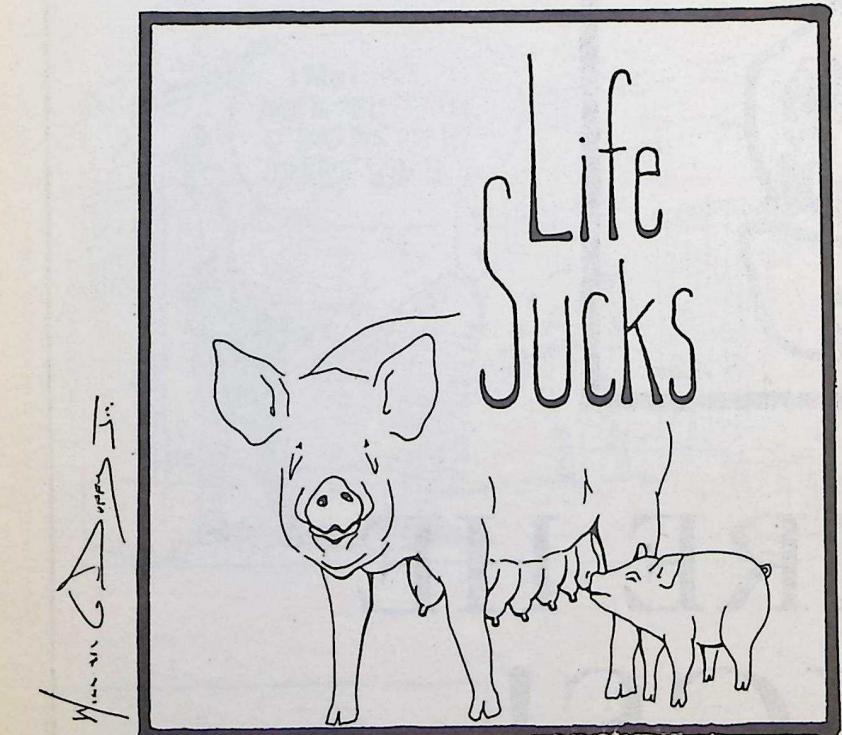
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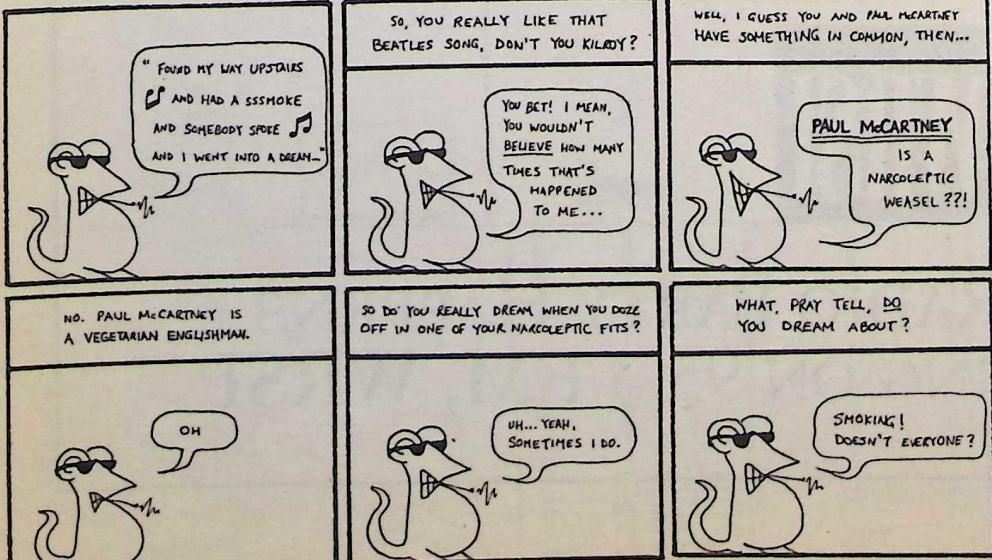
Star Shrinker



... when I colored black and white movies. ... But my new marriage is too radical - even for me.



Kilroy the Narcoleptic Weasel



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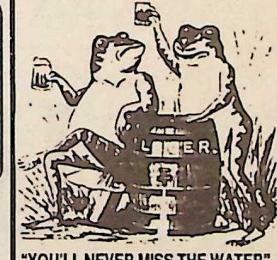
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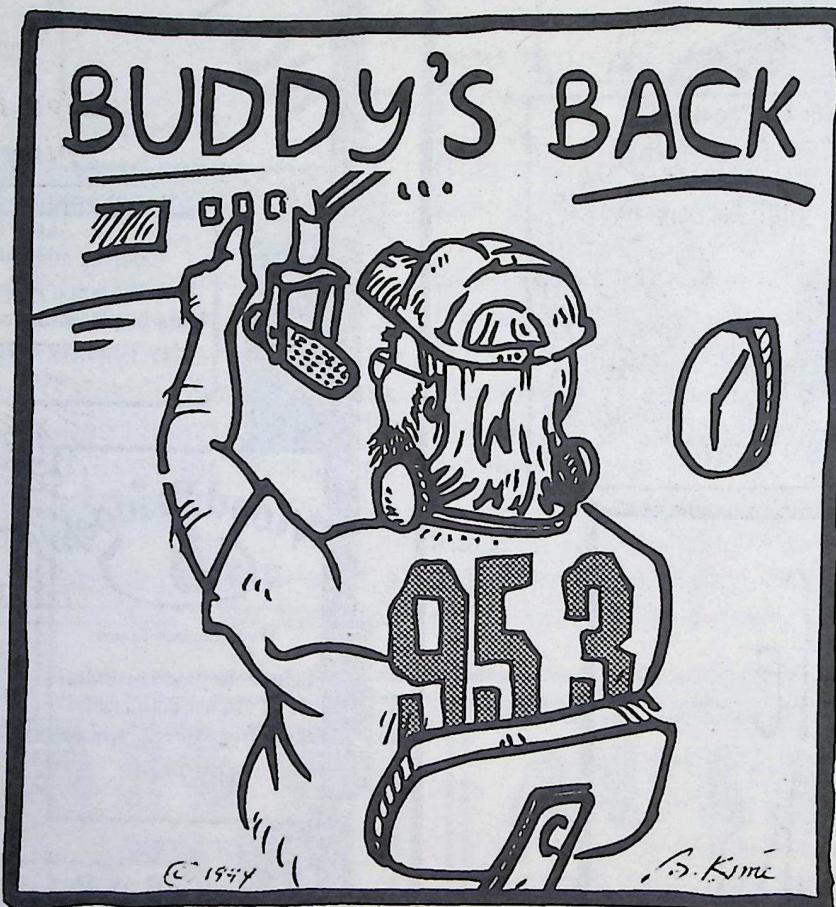
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WHERE IS BUDDY RUBBISH?

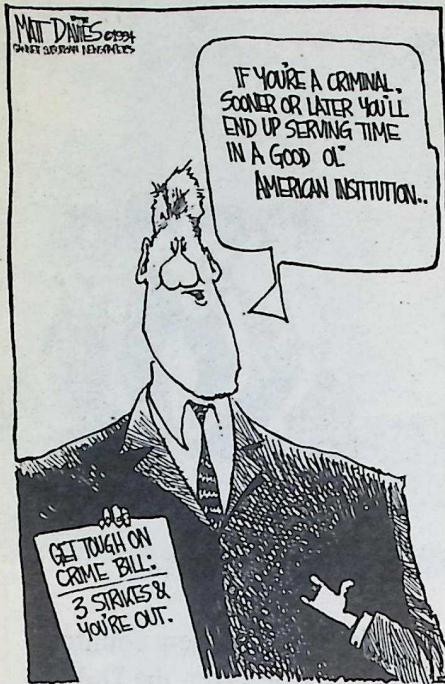


BACK WHERE HE BELONGS!



THE BUDDY RUBBISH RADIO PARTY HAPPENS
EVERY WEEKDAY MORNING ON 95.3 FM, WRSI

STRIKE THREE -- YOU'RE OUT!



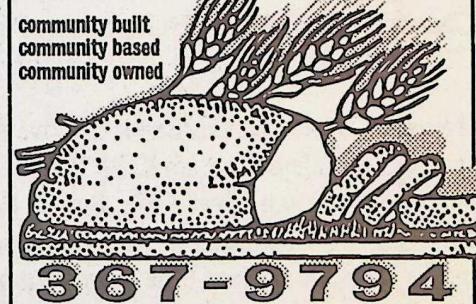
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Fri., Feb. 25 - 8:30
Blues Series Continues,
DEBBIE DAVIES BAND
G. Love & Special Sauce

Sat., Feb. 26 - 9:00
HEAVY METAL HORNS

Sun., Feb. 27 - 7:00 & 9:00 pm
CHARLIE DANIELS
Bear Mountain

Mon., March 1 - 7:30 - 18+
YNGWIE MALMSTEEN
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Fri., March 4
THE MACHINE

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WEEKENDS



THU
TWENTYFOUR

Vertex: Selectrocution Iron Horse: 15th Anniversary Show — The Holmes Brothers Hadley Pub: new country music w/ DJ Mike Perkins Seven O's: karaoke night Pearl Street: Kiss tribute, w/ Rock & Roll Over, the Unband, the Cheetahs, Miss. Reed, Hulapopper, Pajama Slave Dancers, Meister Frich, plus hip-hop dance music by Spin, Inc. Bay State Hotel: Electric Noodle Factory Smith College Theatre: Polywise, by Andrea Hairston

FRI
TWENTYFIVE

Pearl Street: Debbie Davies Band, G. Love & Special Sauce, plus top 40 dance music w/ DJ Bob Bay State Hotel: Blood Oranges, Kevin Salem, Barbara Keith Band Charlemont Inn: Montenia Delaney House: LaValley Duo Harvest Valley: Kirby Farrell Quartet Green River Cafe: Barwa Peking Garden/Humor Works: showcase & open mic Seven O's: Sundown Hadley Pub: Big Time Band w/ Jimmy Johnson Iron Horse: Aztec Two-Step, She's Busy Smith College Theatre: Polywise, by Andrea Hairston UMass Fine Arts Center: George Clinton & the P-Funk All-Stars, featuring Parliament/Funkadelic

SAT
TWENTYSIX

Vertex: Selectrocution Smith College Theatre: Polywise, by Andrea Hairston Seven O's: Sundown Hadley Pub: Florida Evans Band Charlemont Inn: Bil Harvest Valley: Kirby Farrell Quartet UMass New World Theater: "A Grain of Sand" by Nobuko Miyamoto Iron Horse: The Nields Northampton Center for the Arts: Total Eclipse Theatre Company — "Street Life" Delaney House: LaValley Duo Pearl Street: Heavy Metal Horns, plus Club HMP, w/ Spin, Inc. The Tea House (formerly Basha's): jazz trombonist Brian Bender & Trio Bay State Hotel: The Unband, Pipe, Puddywad Green River Cafe: Back To Back

SUN
TWENTYSEVEN

Green River Cafe: Carla Sciaky Northampton Brewery: Chris O'Connor & Friends, Stu Getz Band Bay State Hotel: Arthur Lee & Love, The Veronica Cartwrights Seven O's: open mic UMass Fine Arts Center: Erie Mills, soprano Pearl Street: Charlie Daniels, Bear Mountain, plus Teen Dance Party Northampton Center for the Arts: The Really Big Show, w/ Sleeveless Theater, Sy Becker, & other amazing acts (at Academy of Music), plus Guest Chef Dinner w/ Michael Ford (at Green St. Cafe) Charlemont Inn: Mary Service (5-8pm) Playwrights-In-Progress (56 Sheerman Lane, Amherst): final reading of *George Bush Is My Father* (by Herschel Shohan; dir. by Keishya Salko)

MON
TWENTYEIGHT

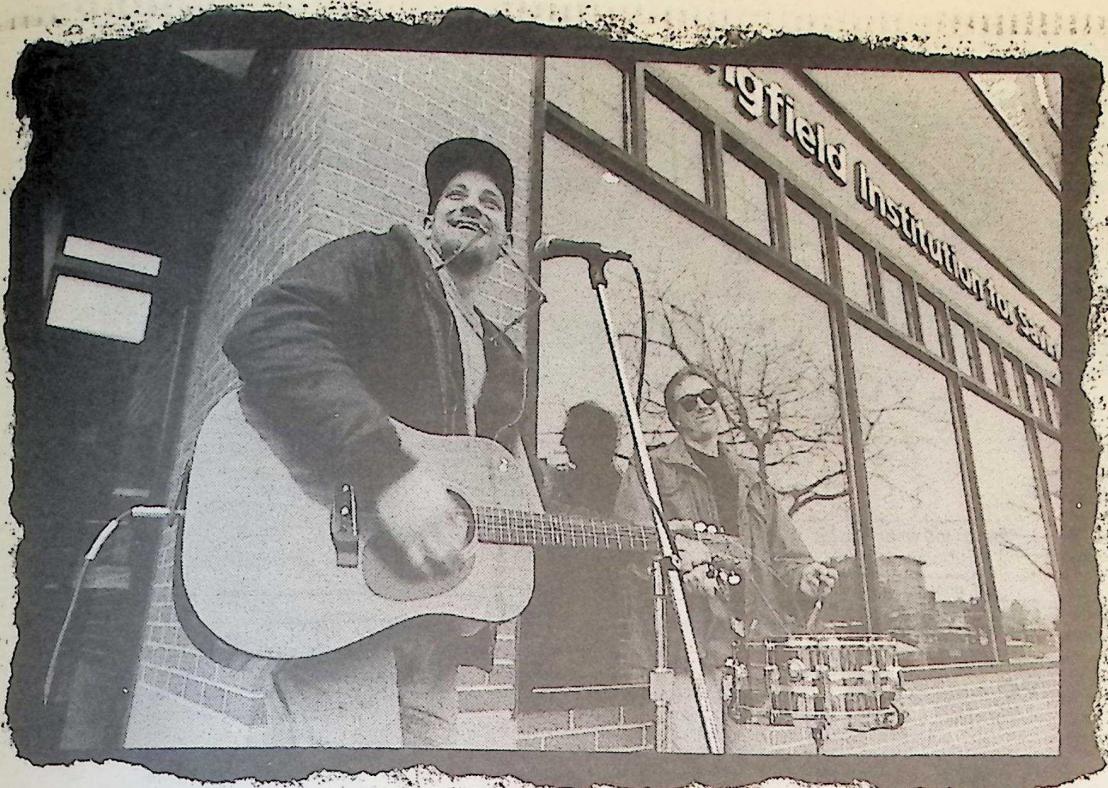
Northampton Center for the Arts: Paul Kengmo, Joseph Ngwa — dance, storytelling, drumming Bay State Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights Vertex: Gay Nite w/ DJ Steve Iron Horse: Luka Bloom

TUE
ONE

Northampton Brewery: open mic, w/ Mark Herschler Iron Horse: Luka Bloom Hadley Pub: Stuart's open mic Pearl Street: Yngwie Malmsteen, Rapid Symphony UMass Fine Arts Center: Martha Graham Dance Company — Appalachian Spring

WED
TWO

Hadley Pub: Reggae night Pearl Street: Gay Night — dancing to music by Spin, Inc. Bay State Hotel: Dish, Mother Holly, Hamlet Idiot Northampton Brewery: Sarah Burrill



Rob Skelton and Dave Durst at street level, Noho

Tobey photo



THU
THREE

Seven O's: karaoke night Bay State Hotel: Steve Westfield's Slow Band, Scud Mountain Boys, Painesville Lanes Hadley Pub: new country music w/ DJ Mike Perkins Pearl Street: Toasters, plus 18+ hip-hop dancing to music by Spin, Inc. Vertex: Selectrocution Amherst College: Count Basie Orchestra

FRI
FOUR

Bay State Hotel: Angry Johnny & The Killbillies Pearl Street: The Machine Seven O's: Slippery Moon Iron Horse: Dan Hicks UMass New World Theater: Marga Gomez (comedy) Delaney's: Lavalley Duo Green River Cafe: The Gutterbirds (Jim Armenti, Pan Morrigan) Common Ground (Bratt.): Uproot Hadley Pub: Big Time Band w/ Jimmy Johnson Peking Garden/Humor Works: showcase & open mic Harvest Valley Restaurant: Dave Brinnell UMass Fine Arts Center: Dance Umbrella's Fascinating Rhythms (jazz tap)

SAT
FIVE

Green River Cafe: Under The House Hadley Pub: Florida Evans Band Bay State Hotel: Minibus, Swampgirl Harvest Valley Restaurant: Jac Veronesi UMass Fine Arts Center: Tom Paxton (11 am) Seven O's: Slippery Moon Delaney's: Lavalley Duo The Tea House (formerly Basha's): jazz trombonist Brian Bender & Trio Iron Horse: Alison Brown, Elizabeth Cutler Pearl Street: Chucklehead

SUN
SIX

Northampton Brewery: Maggies, Swampgirl Seven O's: open mic Pearl Street: David Wilcox, plus Teen Dance Party Vertex: Ace Frehley (formerly of Kiss) Iron Horse: Vinx Green River Cafe: Uncle Gismo

MON
SEVEN

Vertex: Gay Nite, w/ DJ Steve Bay State Hotel: Blue Monday, w/ Ed Vadas & The Fabulous Heavyweights Pearl Street: Widespread Panic

TUE
EIGHT

Northampton Brewery: open mic, w/ Mark Herschler Hadley Pub: Stuart's open mic Bay State Hotel: Eggs, Skinner Pilot, Tizzy Green River Cafe: Amante Chamber Ensemble Pearl Street: Murphy's Law

WED
NINE

Pearl Street: Gay Night w/ music by Spin, Inc. Northampton Brewery: Tom McClung Bay State Hotel: Solitary Femmes Hadley Pub: Reggae night

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FRI 25

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SAT 26

THE NIELDS

MON 28 & TUES 1

LUKA BLOOM

WED 2

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SUSAN McKEON

WED 2

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Pan Morrigan
& Jim Armenti,
KEVIN KEADY

FRI 4

DAN HICKS

SAT 5

ALISON BROWN,
ELIZABETH
CUTTER

SUN 6

VINX

MON 7

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EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

Famine

 Three months of drought has brought a million people in parts of Kenya and Ethiopia to the brink of famine. Seven people have already died of starvation, and others have resorted to searching for wild berries and roots to survive. Officials fear that 250,000 head of cattle will die in Kenya's Kajiado District unless rains arrive by the end of March. The presence of about 400,000 refugees from Somalia, Ethiopia, and Sudan has made the food crisis in Kenya even more acute.

Enduring Winter

 Old-timers in the northern U.S. and eastern Canada once claimed that "winters these days aren't what they used to be." You won't hear much talk like that any more — the region is reeling from yet another arctic blast. Freezing rain and heavy snow wreaked havoc with highway and air travel, and generally made life miserable from the Rockies to the Atlantic.

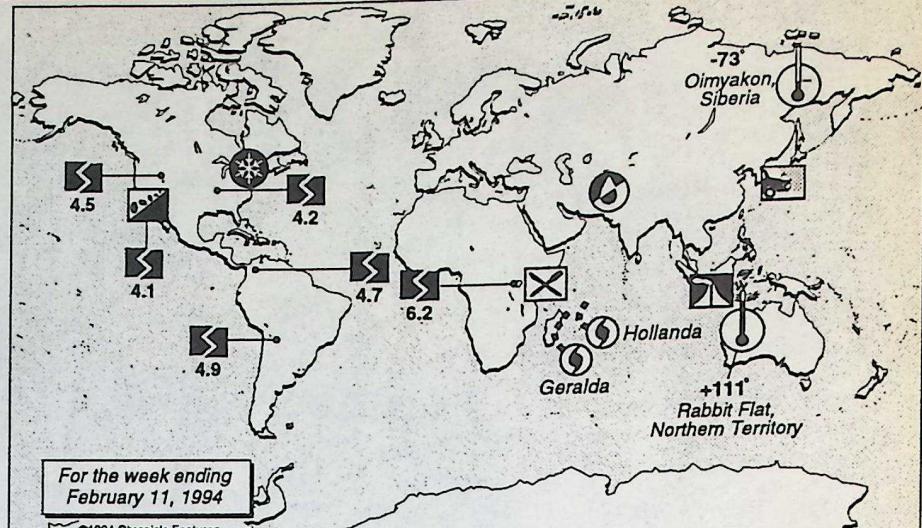
The most persistent frigid weather since 1978 has left much of the Great Lakes covered with an unusually thick layer of ice.

Earthquakes

 The strongest quake to strike the Great Rift Valley in Uganda since 1966 left 12 people dead and 200 others injured. The pre-dawn quake also rocked eastern Zaire, and was followed by numerous aftershocks.

Frightening seismic echoes of the devastating Southern California tremor continued to rattle nerves around the Los Angeles Basin. In the northern Rocky Mountains, swarms of tremors were felt widely along the border region of Idaho and Wyoming.

Movements also were felt in Missouri and Illinois, northern Colombia, and the Chile-Bolivia border.



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Opium Drought

 A prolonged dry spell in Pakistan has withered most of the country's huge illegal opium crop. "This was help from God, but we will not pray for it to come again because it also destroys other crops," Interior Minister Naseerullah Khan Babar told a news conference. The drought has destroyed 80 percent of the poppy crop from which opium is produced in the semi-autonomous North West Frontier tribal region.

Volcano

 Indonesia's Mount Semeru erupted 18 times, forcing 1,500 people to flee their homes in East Java. Five people were killed in the initial eruptions. Police said that those displaced may be unable to return home for some time due to fears that rainstorms could send volcanic debris and mud cascading down the mountain, covering their homes.

Aftermath

 Mud slides joined the host of other natural disasters to strike coastal areas of Southern California in recent months. Rainfall from a potent Pacific cold front unleashed gushes of mud, burying cars on the Pacific Coast Highway and pouring through homes in the celebrity-packed community of Malibu.

Tropical Storms

 The death toll in the wake of cyclone Geralda rose to 70 as Madagascar began its cleanup following the worst such storm this century. Geralda left a trail of destruction in the port of Toamasina on the east coast, wrecking nearly 80 percent of the buildings. Approximately 150,000 people were made homeless by the cyclone.

Tropical cyclone Hollanda formed over the northeastern Indian Ocean, then veered into open waters before reaching Mauritius.

Smog Filters

 The air quality along highways in Osaka, Japan's second-largest city, has become so poor that the regional government plans to build a giant vacuum cleaner to suck up the automobile exhaust and purify it. The *Japan Times* reported that the proposed device would consist of a roadside duct 10 feet in diameter, and electric fans to draw the air into an underground tunnel outfitted with huge filters. After filtration, the air would pass through a chamber where bacteria is to separate nitrogen dioxide into nitrogen and oxygen before the purer air is released. A prototype is expected to be built sometime after April. Without such drastic action, air pollution levels at eight sites in the region will exceed government standards by 1999.

Additional Sources: U.S. Climate Analysis Center, Meteo Mauritius, Meteo France, U.S. Earthquake Information Center, and the World Meteorological Organization.

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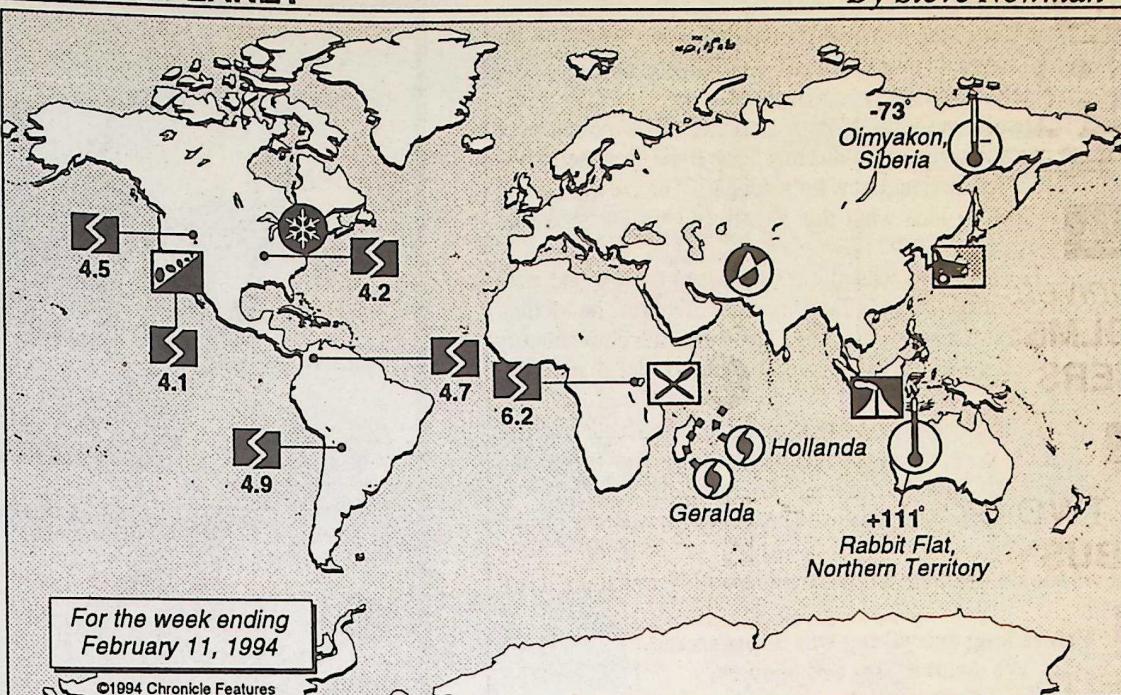
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THE SPORTS BOOK OF NOSTRADAMUS

by Leo T. Baldwin

Michelle de Nostredame was born on December 14, 1503. He is known to us as "Nostradamus — the seer, the celestial prophet, *the man who saw the future.*" This is a load of crap. Nostradamus was a gifted prognosticator, sure. But he employed his great gift solely to forecast *professional sports*.

Few people realize what a sports nut Nostradamus was. His mother once found him swinging a stick at a butternut and muttering, "The Babe promised a boy in the hospital he'd hit a homer for him, and now he's done it! The crowd's going crazy!" Mrs. Nostradamus had no idea what this meant, but we can make no mistake.

By the age of 18, Nostradamus was an accomplished bowler and pool player. He once ran three racks in a game of billiards against Catherine de Medici, a feat that would have earned a lesser man a beheading. These are facts conveniently overlooked by the pseudo-intellectuals who have worked so hard to make Nostradamus into something he never was.

Nostradamus wrote his predictions in a type of verse called a *quatraine* — a four-line poem. It's certainly no coincidence that baseball has *four* bases, and football is played in *four* quarters with *four* downs. Golfers yell "*fore*" prior to striking the ball. It's well-known that Nostradamus hated hockey, which is played in *three* periods.

At this point we should illustrate a few examples of Nostradamus' great gifts. Take this quatrain:

Before long everything will be organized.

We await a very evil century:

The lot of the masked and solitary one greatly changed,
Few will be found who wish to stay in their places.

The first line clearly refers to the upcoming realignment of the American and National leagues into three divisions. The "evil century" in line two foretells the implementation of the designated hitter rule and inter-league play. The "masked and solitary one greatly changed" is a reference to the late Thurman Munson (catcher for the Yankees), who nobody really liked, but everybody felt bad when he got killed. "Few will be found who wish to stay in their places": *I hate free agency; you hate free agency; Nostradamus hated free agency.*

It's so sad that nobody was paying attention to Nostradamus when the World Series opened in Candlestick Park on October 17, 1989. A lot of anguish might have been avoided:

Earth shaking from the center of the Earth

Will cause the towers (light stands) around the New City (the Giants moved to San Francisco in 1958) to shake:

Two great rocks will war for a long time (a reference to the delay of the "Fall Classic"),

And then Arethas will color a new river red
(I'll get back to you on this one).

There will be a tremendous earthquake;

The great theater filled (with fans) will be ruined (almost).

The plight of the Boston Red Sox seems to have been one of Nostradamus' special concerns. Tom Yawkey's death and the suffering of his widow, Jean, who took over sole ownership after his passing, is wrapped up in a neat package and presented to us with a great big red bow in this quatrain:

The lady left alone in the realm

Her husband first extinguished on the bed of honor:
For seven years she will weep with grief (the '86 Series),

Then a long life and good fortune for the Kingdom.

Who could forget the picture of Jean Yawkey in the Red Sox locker room waiting for the presentation of the World Series trophy — a trophy that never came? I still haven't gotten over it. The last line of this prophecy might lead us to believe that better days lie ahead for Sox fans. Unfortunately, in this case "Kingdom" refers to heaven, or the afterlife. Meaning: the only relief for followers of the Crimson Hose is *death*.

Finally, this example — also familiar to Boston sports fans:

The year the great seventh number is accomplished

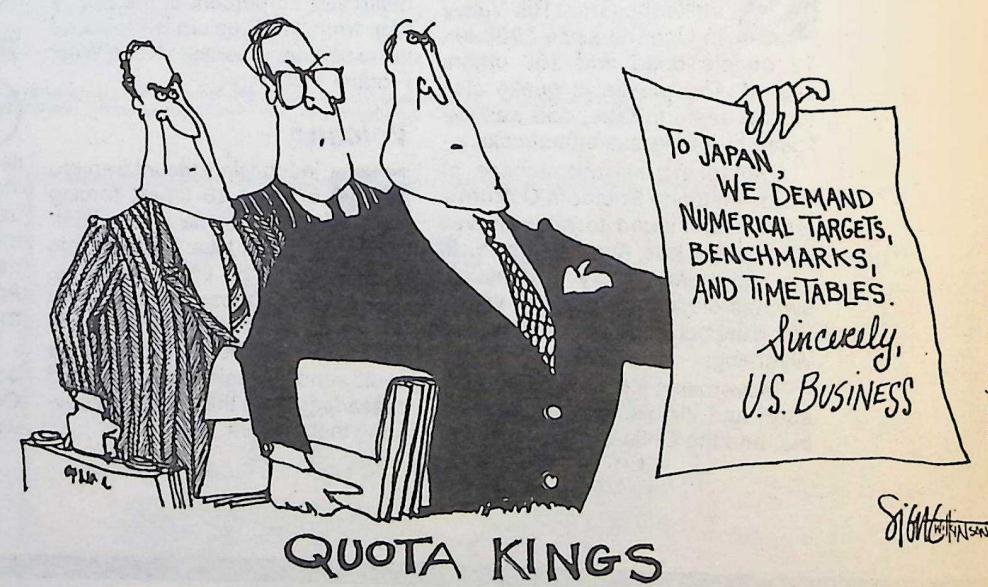
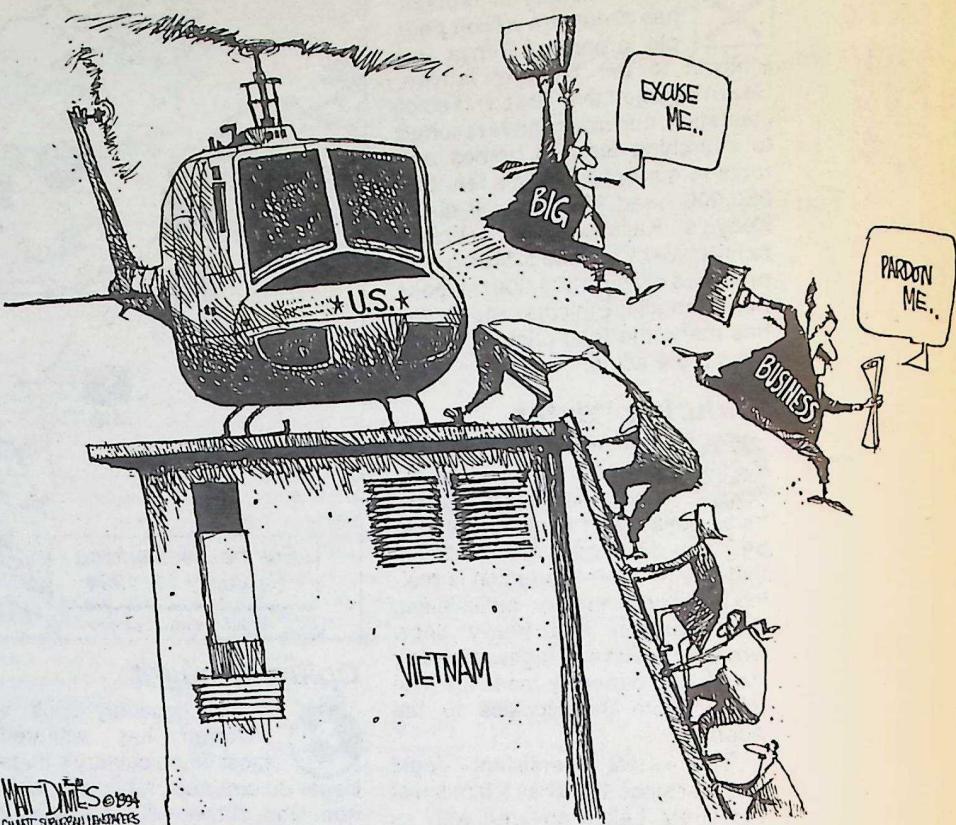
Appearing at the time of the games of slaughter,
Not far from the age of the great millennium
When the dead will come out of their graves.

This can only mean: "Here's the inbounds pass, and Havliceck steals it! Havliceck steals the ball! Havliceck stole the ball!! John Havliceck stole the ball!!!!"

Countless references to other sports abound in the teachings of Nostradamus, but unfortunately our space is limited. I'll leave you with a final amazing incident, when Nostradamus lay on his deathbed. His lifelong friend, Chuck, was with him and wrote in his diary later: "As the moment of death approached, Michelle — the great Nostradamus, who once bowled a 299 — called me close to him. In a voice I could barely hear, he whispered, 'If the Bills play in the Super Bowl, bet the over.' What could this mean? Truly this was a mysterious man!"

Truly. In January, I won fifty bucks betting the over.

DOLLAR DIPLOMACY

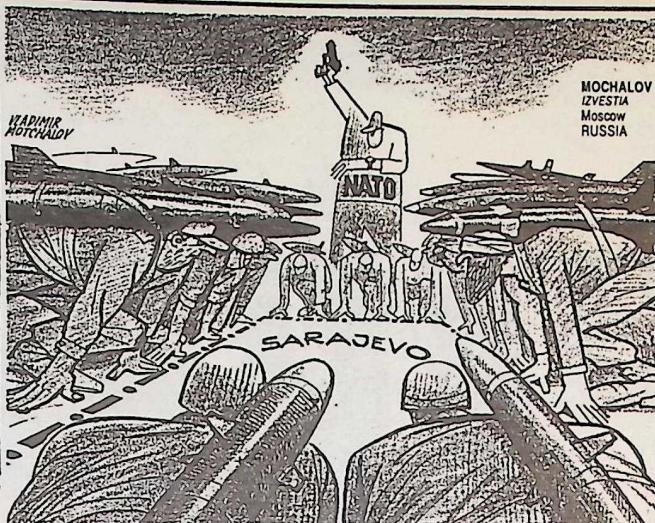


IEWS OF THE WORLD

VIEWS of the WORLD



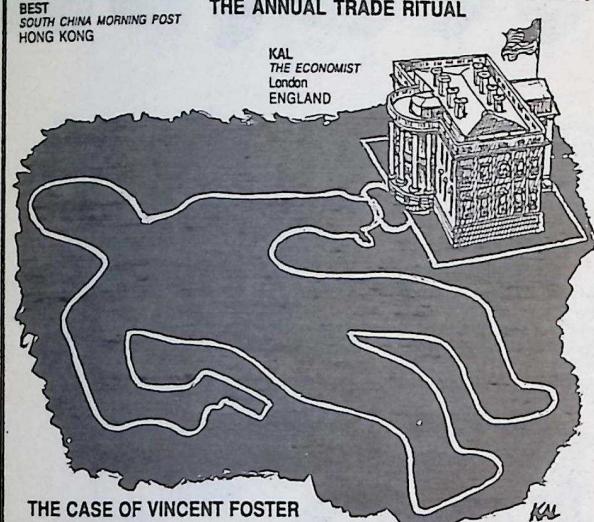
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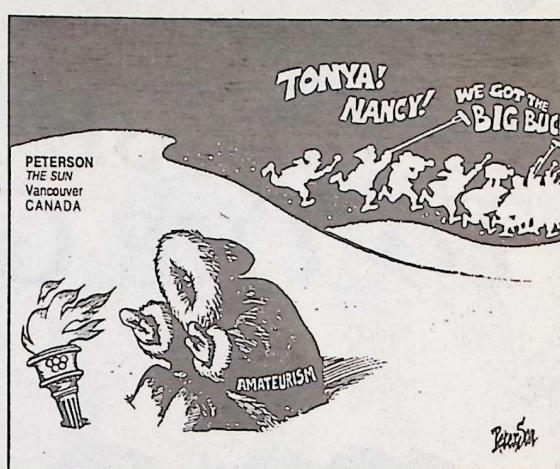
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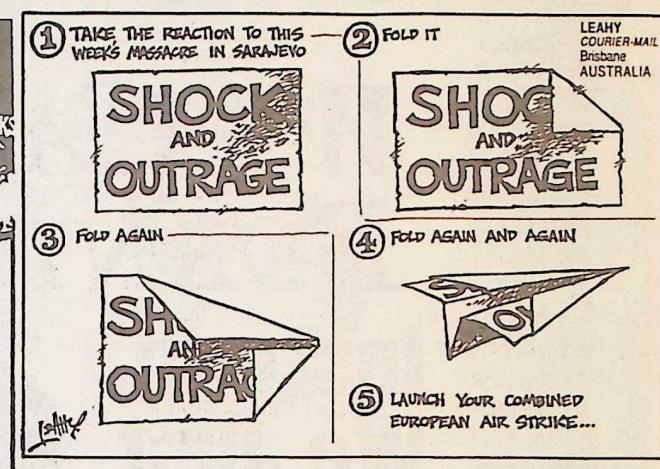
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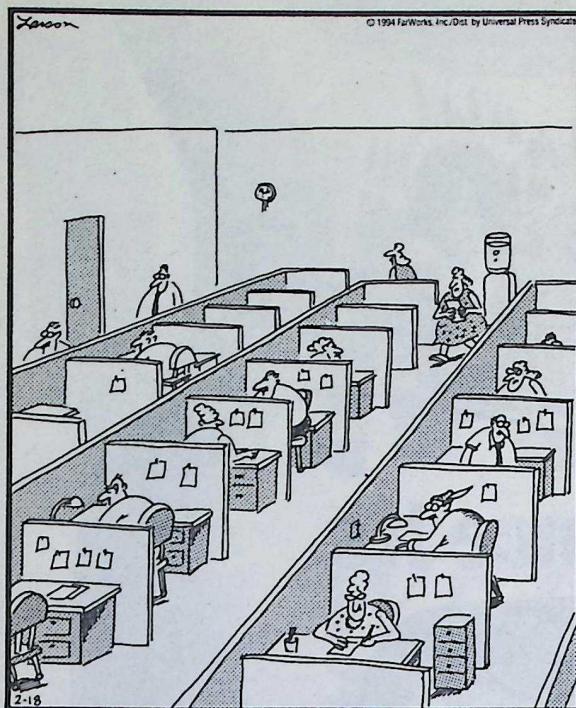
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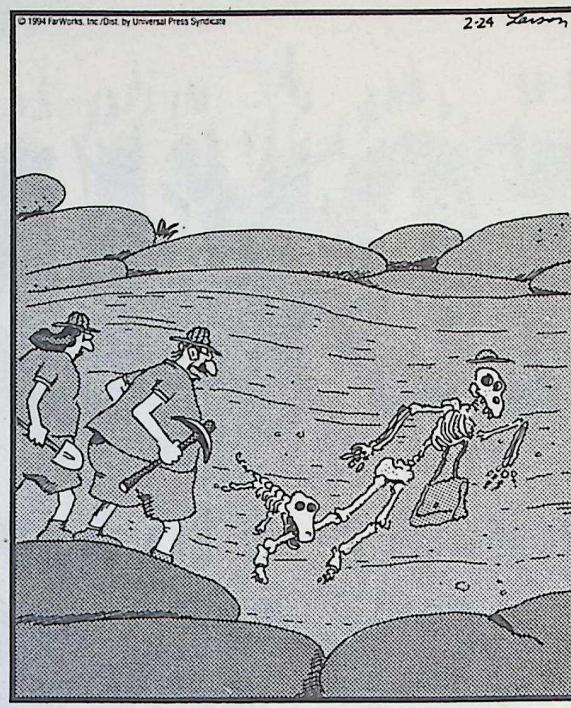
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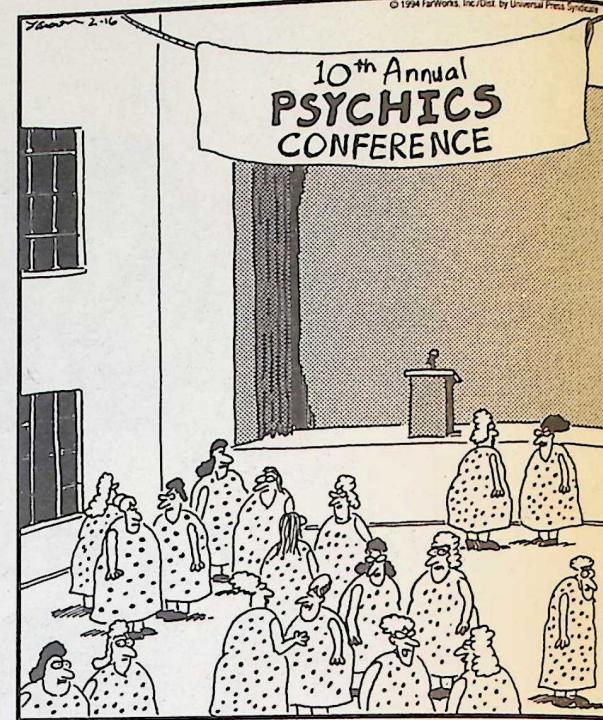
By GARY LARSON



Thirty years had passed, and although he had no real regrets about marrying Wendy, buying a home and having two kids, Peter found his thoughts often going back to his life in Never-Never-Land.



"What a find, Ms. Dinkins! ... It's Mailman, all right — but remarkably, this specimen is fully intact, with his *Canus nipponicus* still attached!"



For the most part, the meeting was quite successful. Only a slight tension filled the air, stemming from the unforeseen faux pas of everyone wearing the same dress.

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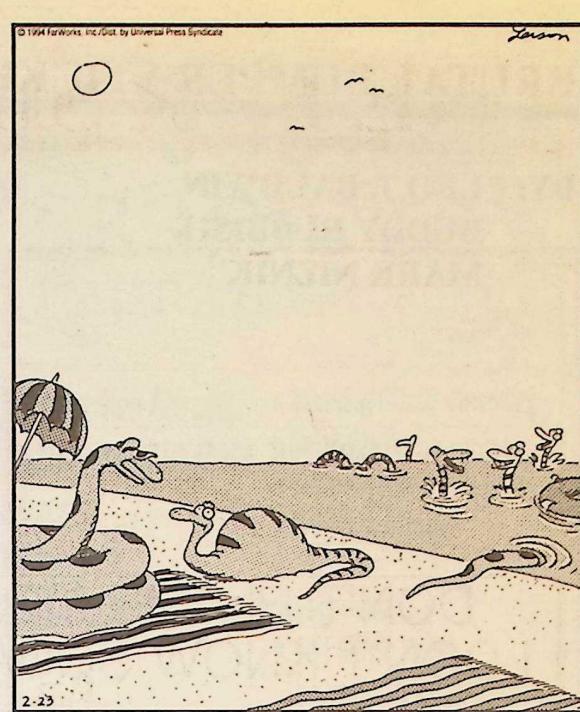
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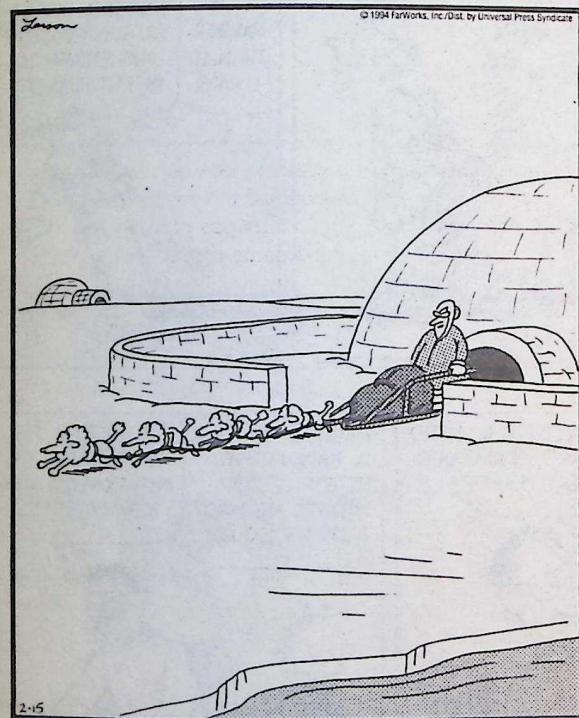
This time, his practical jokes had gone too far, and Wally was finally booted off the hill.



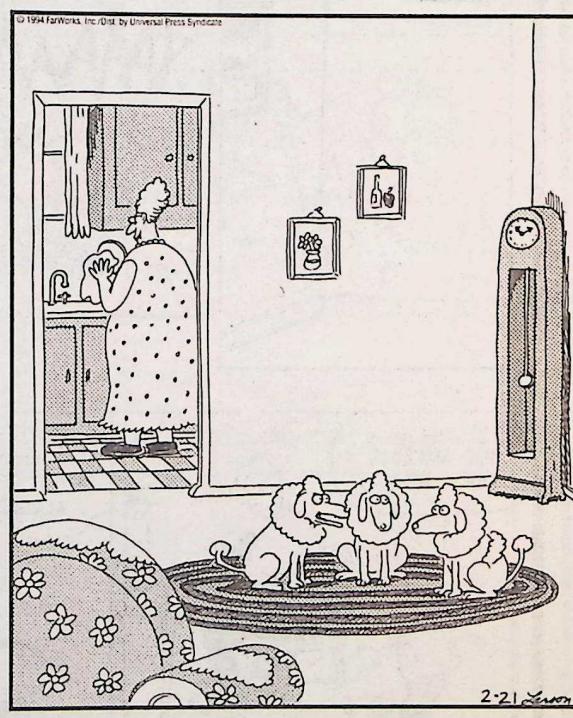
"Sorry, Kevin, but my friends have all advised me not to run with you anymore."



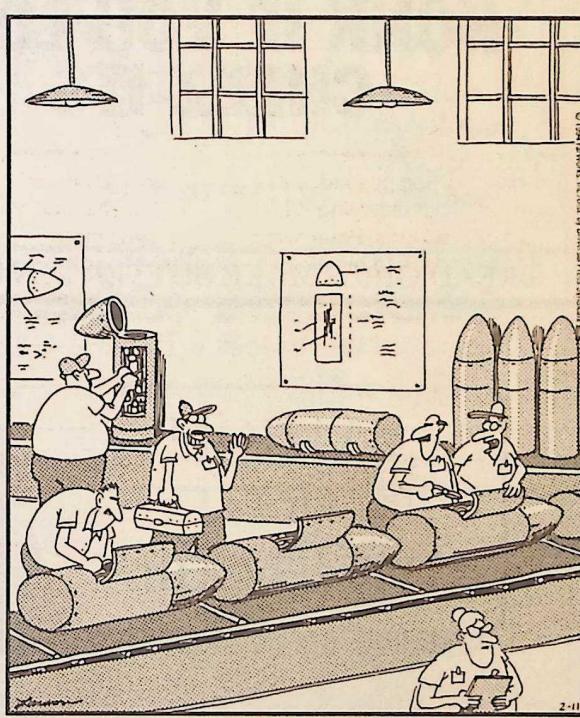
"Sorry, Bobby, but you know the rule — no swimming for a week after eating."



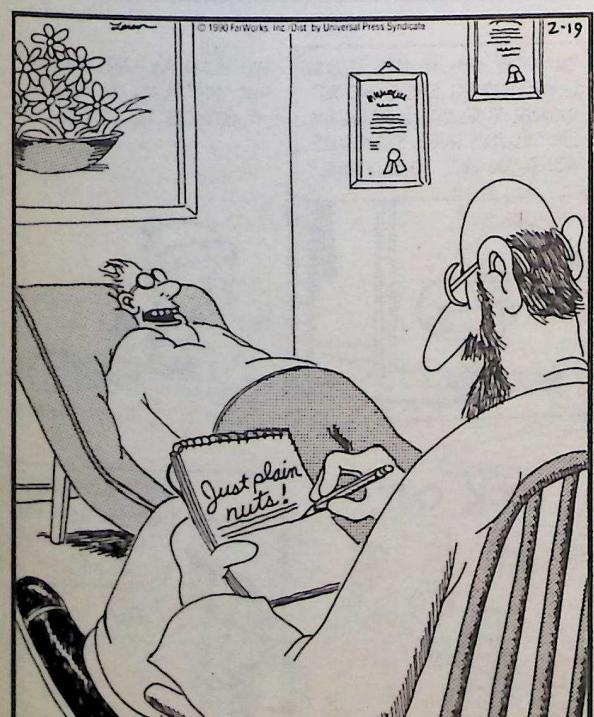
Beverly Hills of the North Pole



"Well, yes, that is the downside, Fluffy. ... When we kill her, the pampering will end."



"Well, here he comes ... Mr. Never-Makes-a-Dud."



"What? MacDougal is being promoted over me? ... Well, that does it! I won't take no orders from no stinkin' sodbuster!"



BRUTAL BUMPER-STICKERS

BY: LEO T. BALDWIN,
BUDDY RUBBISH,
MARK NIZNIK

ANOTHER DRUNK FRIEND OF BILL W.

DON'T BLAME ME.
I DON'T KNOW SQUAT.

**HONK IF YOU LOVE
CHEEZ-ITS**

BREAD GIRLS MAKE BUTTER LOVERS

CATHOLICS
DO IT
WITH GUILT

HUMMERS
ARE BETTER
THAN DRUGS

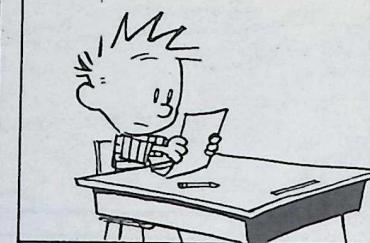
I MAY BE SPEEDING BUT AT
LEAST I'M NOT WEARING
NAZI STORM TROOPER
BOOTS

calvin and Hobbes

by BILL
WATTERSON

Test:

1. What important event took place on December 16, 1773?



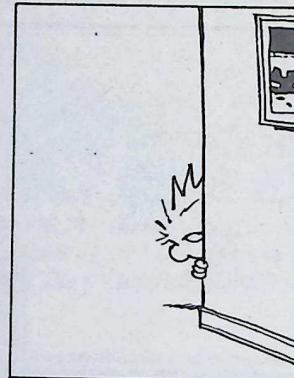
I DO NOT BELIEVE IN LINEAR TIME.. THERE IS NO PAST AND FUTURE: ALL IS ONE, AND EXISTENCE IN THE TEMPORAL SENSE IS ILLUSORY. THIS QUESTION, THEREFORE, IS MEANINGLESS AND IMPOSSIBLE TO ANSWER.



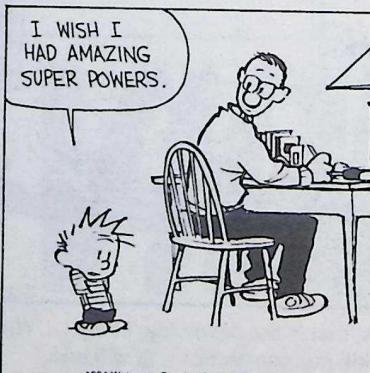
WHEN IN DOUBT,
DENY ALL TERMS
AND DEFINITIONS.



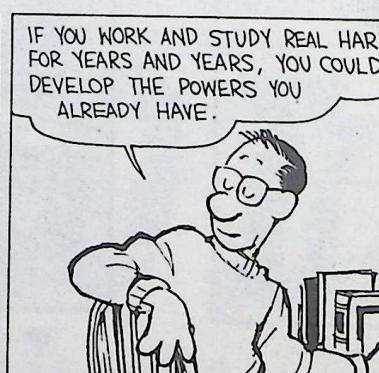
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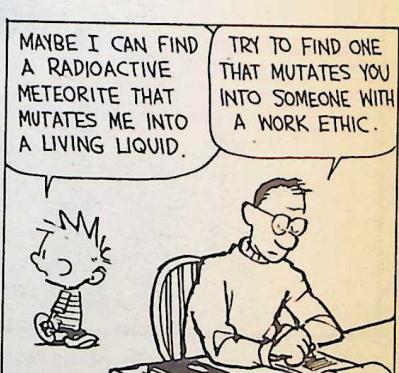
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I WISH I
HAD AMAZING
SUPER POWERS.



IF YOU WORK AND STUDY REAL HARD
FOR YEARS AND YEARS, YOU COULD
DEVELOP THE POWERS YOU
ALREADY HAVE.



MAYBE I CAN FIND
A RADIOACTIVE
METEORITE THAT
MUTATES ME INTO
A LIVING LIQUID.

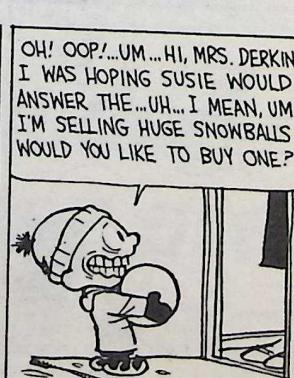
TRY TO FIND ONE
THAT MUTATES YOU
INTO SOMEONE WITH
A WORK ETHIC.



DING DONG!



HEH HEH
HEH!



OH! OOP!..UM..HI, MRS. DERKINS.
I WAS HOPING SUSIE WOULD
ANSWER THE..UH..I MEAN, UM,
I'M SELLING HUGE SNOWBALLS.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO BUY ONE?



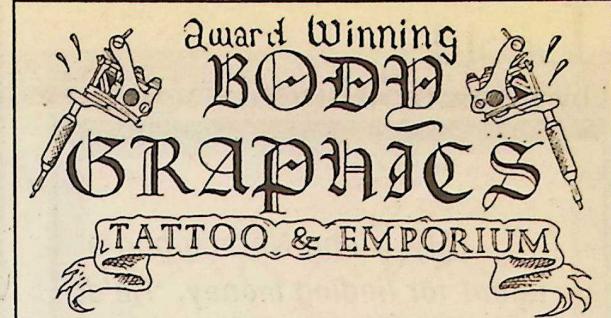
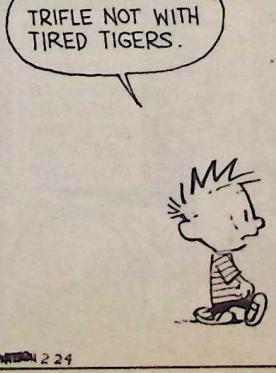
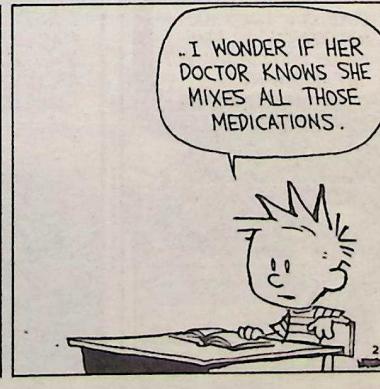
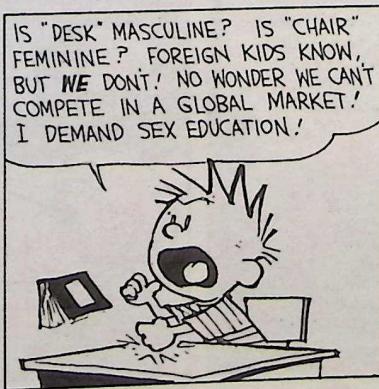
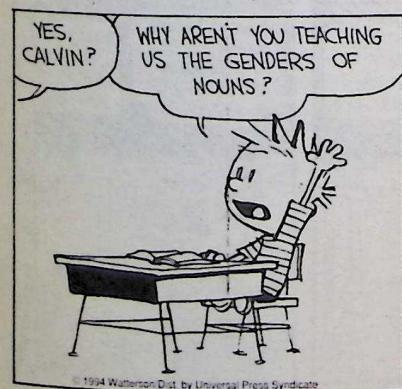
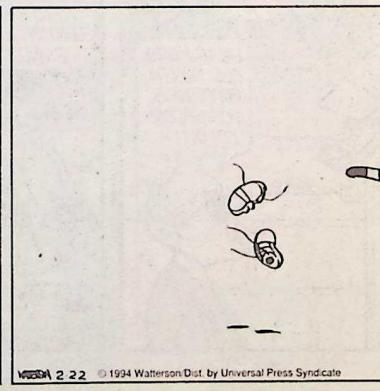
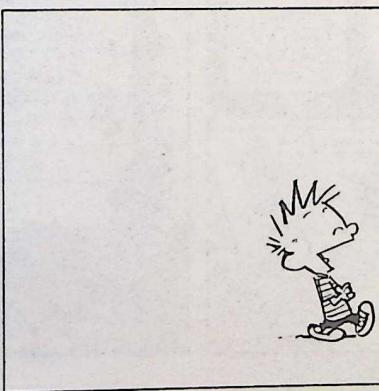
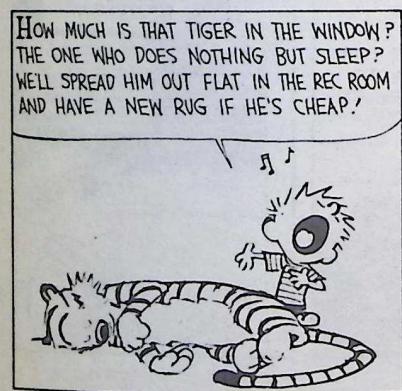
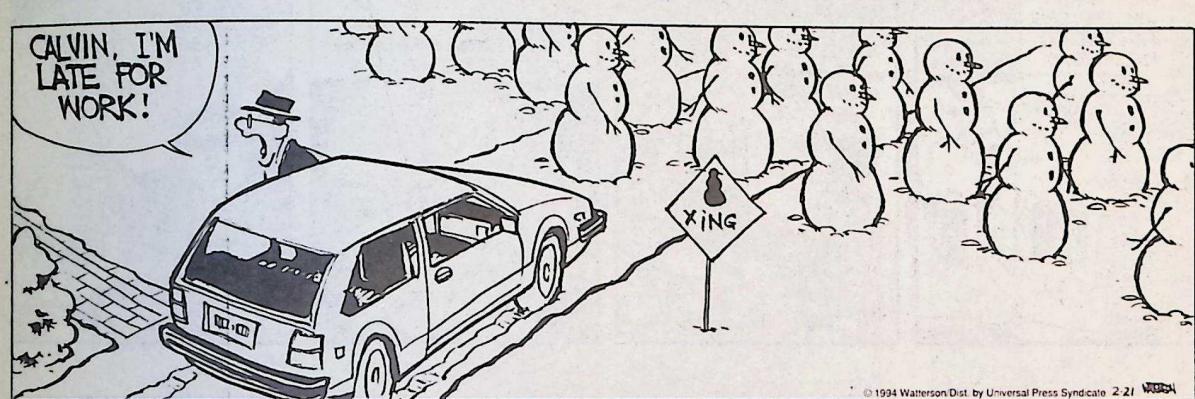
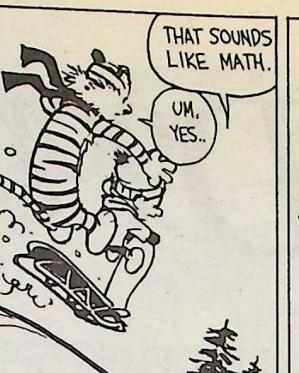
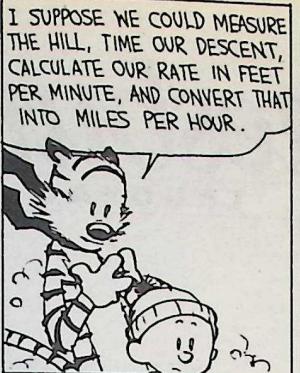
MY "PLAN A's" ARE GREAT,
BUT MY "PLAN B's" LEAVE
A LOT TO BE DESIRED.



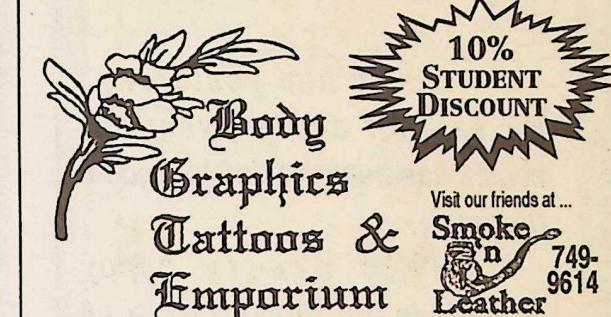
LOOK OUT!



MY SNOWBALLS
GO FASTER THAN
THE SPEED OF
SOUND.
THEY DO NOT,
YOU BIG LIAR!



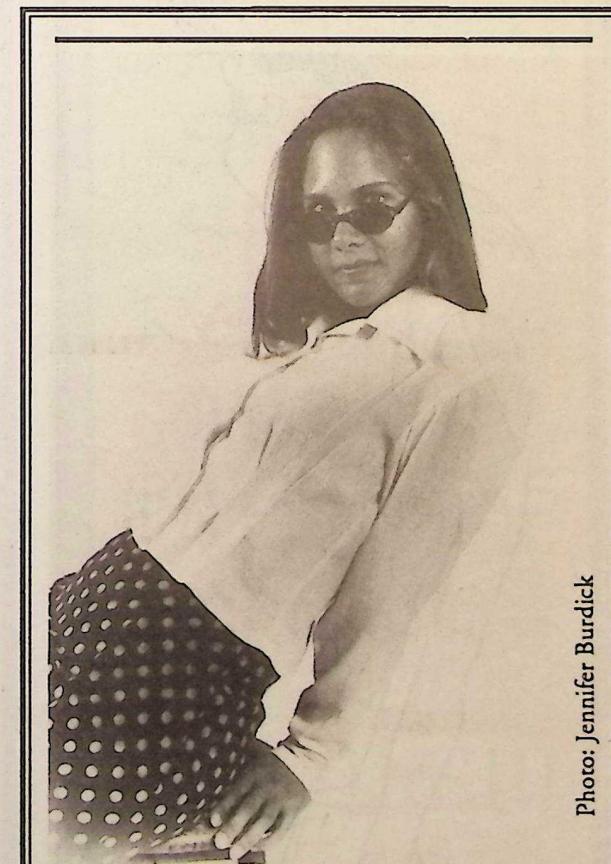
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Leold

by Roger Salloom

My friend Normie had a talent for finding money. He'd save up and take us out for burgers and chips all the time.

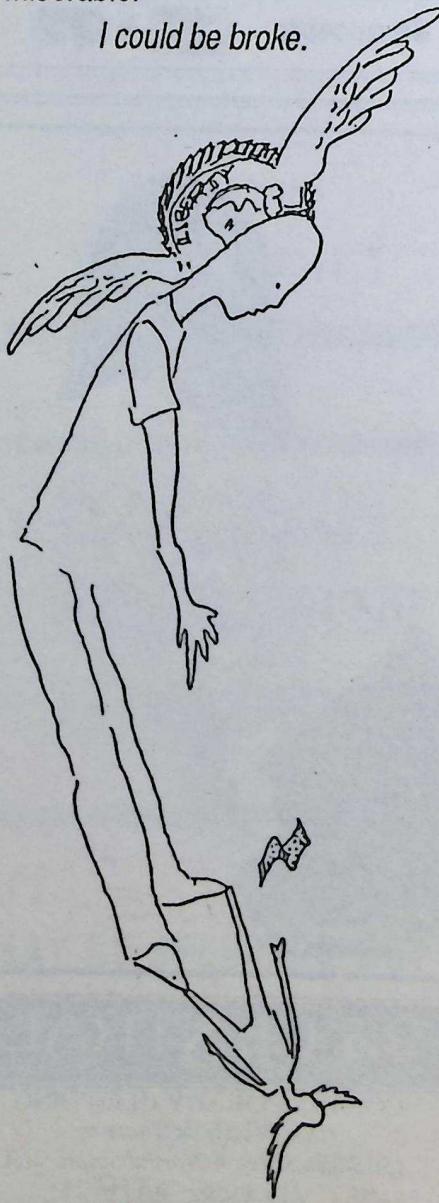
He was depressed a lot. So, he'd mope around with his head hanging down ...looking down, and he'd find money just sitting on the ground. Wow.

I saw him yesterday. He said for about a year his cousin has been making him go to therapy.

He's pretty happy nowadays but doesn't have as much money.

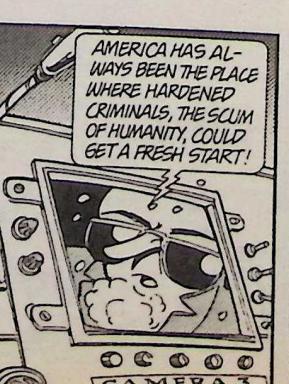
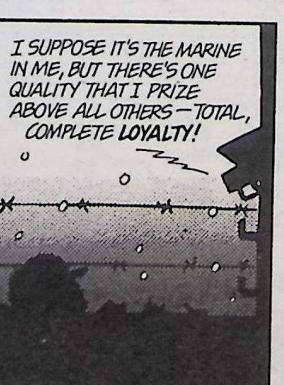
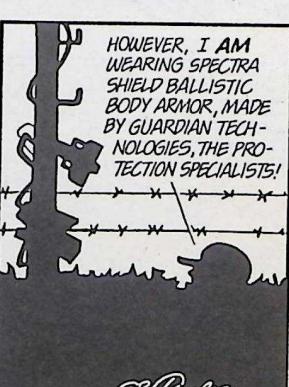
I should be thankful I'm miserable.

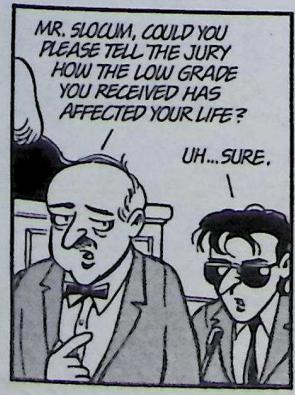
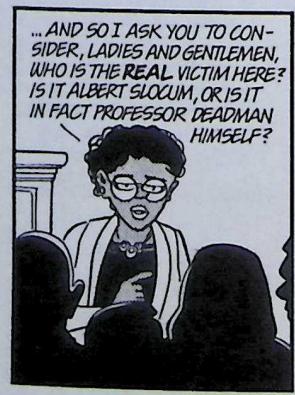
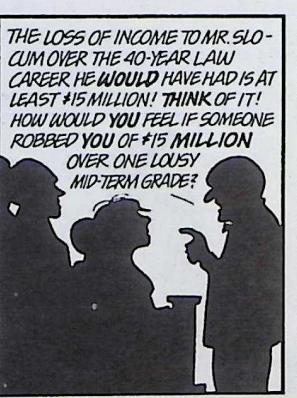
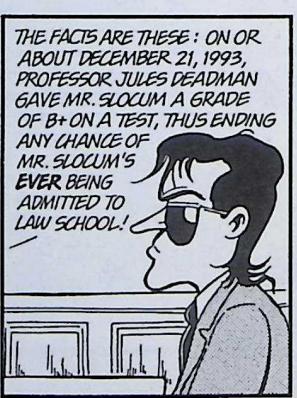
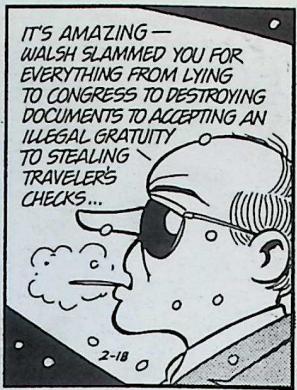
I could be broke.



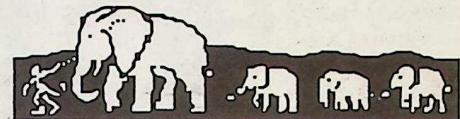
Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU





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